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Selfish
ワガママ・ゴーマン・魔王様
Deman King



Yaoi ヤオイ Novel

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“Mmm...” When Duga kissed him, he couldn’t think clearly. It felt like his whole body went weak. The situation got even worse when the kiss deepened and Duga’s tongue pushed against his. “Ahh...mmm...” he moaned softly. He found himself pushing back with his tongue, and straining his body against Duga’s.



Innocent Shizuku thinks he’s just an ordinary high-school student – until a handsome and powerful Demon King from another world kidnaps and takes him away!

Duga the Demon King tells Shizuku that he’s not a human being, but actually an incubus – a beautiful creature whose physical charms absolutely no demon can resist. And what’s more – he’s taken Shizuku to his demon world in order to make him his life companion! Will Shizuku be able to resist Duga’s advances? Or will he fall in love with the selfish but charming Demon King?

Kyoko Wakatsuki’s sweet and sexy tale will transport you to a world where human-looking demons chase beautiful incubi, and where lust and love and romance intertwine! Contains illustrations by Naduki Koujima (*Our Kingdom*).

 **Kinokuniya**

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They faced each other in the bathtub, Shizuku on Duga's lap. Unable to control his steadily rising body temperature any longer, he returned Duga's kiss.

The Selfish Demon King

Shizuku Kurokawa was a second-year high school student. He had a reputation around town for being really good-looking; everyone he knew treated him kindly and watched out for him.

Both his eyes and hair were a reddish-brown color that his father and two older brothers said were the color of black tea. Between that and his luminous white skin, he didn't really look Japanese.

His family doted on him and would happily stroke his hair, and say things like his eyes looked like delicious pieces of candy.

Since his father and brothers all had black hair and eyes and looked nothing like Shizuku, sometimes he wondered if he had been adopted. But in fact there was no doubt that he was his parents' biological child – he looked exactly like his maternal grandmother. When he thought about that and how much his family cared for him, Shizuku felt much better.

After his afternoon classes ended Shizuku usually headed straight home, since he didn't belong to any clubs and didn't have a part-time job.

"I'm home!" he said, rushing into his house one day. But there was a strange tension in the air. He never remembered it feeling like this before.

"Huh?" Shizuku asked, as his father and two older

brothers were unexpectedly awaiting him. And standing next to them was a man wearing strange clothes.

He looked to be in his mid-to-late twenties, or perhaps early thirties. He had such exquisite facial features that it was very hard for Shizuku to determine his age, and he found himself staring at him.

He couldn't stop staring at the man's glittering black eyes that had a hint of blue in them. Since he lived in Japan, it wasn't unusual to see people with black eyes. His father and brothers all had black eyes. But they were black mixed with brown, and it was the first time he had seen someone with eyes that were black mixed with blue.

They were so beautiful that he was entranced, unable to look away.

"..."

The one who came to first was the man. Shizuku saw him coming closer, and then all of a sudden the man held him tightly in his arms.

"W-What are you doing?"

"Adorable..."

"Um...thanks?"

"I'm in love."

"..."

Shizuku's eyes glazed over at the man's sudden confession. "E-Excuse me?"

Was he serious or joking? It was the first time they had met, and this man was so gorgeous that it just had to be a joke.

He was in the arms of someone he didn't even know, so he tried to resist and pull away, but the man held



him firmly by the waist. The more he tried to escape, the closer the man's face came to his own. When Shizuku realized he was going to kiss him, he screamed.

"What are you doing?"

"I'm going to kiss you."

"No!"

"Don't be shy."

"That's not the problem!"

Shizuku tried as desperately as he could to free himself from the man's arms.

His father sighed deeply as he watched the two of them, and spoke to the man. "Please stop. That's my son."

"Your son?" The man raised an eyebrow dubiously. Shizuku gulped. The man stared at his father and narrowed his eyes. "I felt a faint presence of an incubus and followed it here. This place reeks of an incubus. But I thought your third child died along with your wife? That's what I heard."

"Someone must have given you the wrong information. Things were quite chaotic around here when my wife died."

"So you moved to the human world before anyone laid eyes on him? And after that you cut off all communication. Even the butlers and maids at your castle claimed they didn't know where you were."

"I was in such a state of shock, I didn't want to see anyone. That's why I thought coming to the human world would be best."

"So you're saying it wasn't to hide the fact from me that your son was an incubus?"

"Of course not. Why would I do that?"

"So I wouldn't take him away, obviously. You know full well that every one hundred years before mating season I search for an incubus."

"It's true the incubi numbers have dwindled, but there are more out there. I'm sure numerous candidates would come out if they knew they would serve you. There's no reason why I would hide it from you."

"Really? You know me. You knew as soon as I set eyes on him that I'd want him."

"Don't be ridiculous." Shizuku's father was smiling, but his eyes were not.

His father was usually so calm—but Shizuku could tell he was nervous in front of this man.

And no matter how he looked at it, the man was younger, yet his status seemed higher than his father's. Just how did they know each other?

And that wasn't the only thing that was strange. Shizuku had no idea what they were even talking about.

"There are other incubi. Shizuku is only a child. He's not fit to be your partner."

"Shizuku...is that his name? How adorable..." the man said, smiling happily.

"Um...thank you," Shizuku said, bewildered. He felt himself blush. It was most likely because the other man's face was still so close to his.

Shizuku had an idea of how cute he was. Not only did his father and brothers tell him, but basically everyone he met told him as much.

Ever since he was little, there were people who would try to kidnap him just because he was cute. A few

men had even told him they loved him and tried to attack him. So he couldn't deny the fact that he was attractive.

Shizuku wanted to become a masculine man like his father, so he couldn't bring himself to love his own feminine face. And because of that face bad people would always approach him, so he just thought it was nothing but trouble.

It looked like this man was another one of them. But he was very beautiful for being just a regular pervert.

The man was still holding onto him, making no effort to let go.

Usually his father wouldn't permit such a situation. As soon as he saw how much Shizuku was trying to get away, he should have been helping him.

But he didn't say anything to the man who held him. Neither did his two older brothers, who seemed even more nervous than their father.

"I can't let Shizuku go, so please go search somewhere else."

"There aren't any adult incubi who don't already have ties. Even some younger than Shizuku weren't virgins!"

"The temptation is too much for incubi."

"That's why Shizuku is perfect. His beautiful face, his beautiful expressions. His beautiful body. And he's a virgin...fantastic."

"He's my treasure. I won't give him up. There's still time before the mating season, isn't there? I'm sure you can find a virgin incubus before then."

"No. I want Shizuku. Only him."

"I'm afraid that's not possible."

"I'm the Demon King."

As soon as he said those words, the air froze.

It was so frightening that Shizuku began to tremble. "D-Dad..."

"It's all right. You don't have to be scared."

Even though he said that, Shizuku was still scared. He really wanted to know who this man was.

"W-Who is he? And what are you all talking about? I don't get any of it."

"Well, it's no wonder. We haven't told you anything about the demon world, and we've raised you as a human."

"Demon world?"

"Yes, we're actually from the demon world."

"So you mean...we're not really Japanese?"

"Well, no. The demon world is different from the human world."

"You mean...the demon world like you see in movies and books is real?"

"Yes. Humans very rarely go there. And they're loudmouths, so we try very hard not to get noticed. We've lived here for seventeen years and no one's suspected us, right?"

"Well, I guess not. So who is this guy?" Shizuku nodded towards the man.

"My name is Duga."

"Duga?"

What a strange name, Shizuku thought, as he tilted his head.

But if he was to believe him, then this man was the

Demon King. And in that case, it would be expected that he have a strange name.

"Whoa! There are horns on his head!" He had been so entranced by his face he hadn't noticed them until now.

Two thin, twisted horns protruded from Duga's head.

"T-Those are horns, right?" Without thinking, Shizuku reached out and touched them. They were hard, and almost felt like they were ceramic or something.

Shizuku's family stiffened as Duga looked at Shizuku. But there wasn't a trace of anger on his face. "Feel better now?"

"Uh, yeah." Shizuku realized he had touched him without permission and withdrew his hand.

His father looked at the two of them and sighed. "It looks like you're serious about this, aren't you?"

"I wouldn't lie."

"All I wanted was to live peacefully in the human world."

"That's impossible. I'll take Shizuku. But you all can continue to stay here."

"I don't think that's going to happen anymore."

Duga snorted at Shizuku's father's furrowed brow. "Anyway, I'm taking Shizuku." He grabbed him by the arm.

"Ah!" Shizuku exclaimed.

All of a sudden everything went dark, and it felt like his body was twisting. Shizuku squeezed his eyes shut.

The only thing he could cling to was Duga.

How long had it been? That strange sensation had felt like an hour. Suddenly Duga whispered into his ear, "We're here," and Shizuku opened his eyes.

"Where?" he asked.

They had been in his house and hadn't even walked one step forward, yet they were now somewhere different.

"W-What? How? Where are we?"

"The demon world."

"Where is that?" Shizuku screamed in panic. A pleased smile crossed Duga's lips.

"You look cute when you panic, too."

"Cute..." He felt like this wasn't the time to be saying things like that, and sighed. But it was true that it had shaken him out of his panic.

After he calmed down a little, he looked around and saw they were in a luxurious room.

It was very large. There was a table and chairs. They sat on a sofa that was decorated in beautiful fabric.

The door was open, so he could see into the next room where there was a large canopied bed. It wasn't square and didn't resemble any kind of bed Shizuku was familiar with. It was more wide than long.

The strange bed and elegant furnishings in the room were so outside Shizuku's norm that he didn't know what to think.

"W-What a nice room..." he murmured.

"Well, of course. It is the king's room in the royal palace," Duga answered, chuckling.

"The royal palace?" The phrase seemed strange to

Shizuku, since he had thought such a thing only existed in fairy tales and not reality.

And the strangest thing of all was that it seemed like the Demon King was telling the truth. Shizuku didn't want to believe it, but he couldn't deny what he saw.

From what his father had said, he didn't want anything to do with this horned Demon King.

Shizuku's face twisted in thought, and Duga laughed again. "They really didn't tell you anything, did they?"

"About what?"

"The demon world, or about your true self."

"What do you mean, my true self? I'm me." Shizuku's voice trembled, fearing what Duga might say next.

He never had any reason to doubt he was human, so he was afraid of what the truth might be. His heart pounded and he trembled. He felt like he might collapse.

"You're not a normal human like you think you are. You're a different creature than human."

"Um..." Normally he would say, "Don't be ridiculous," but because of his father and Duga's baffling conversation and this strange teleportation he had experienced, he wasn't so sure. In a blink of an eye he had been taken from his own house to this unfamiliar place; that definitely was not normal. His head was still spinning trying to figure that out.

"This is the demon world. You're not human, you're a magical being. As are, of course, your father and brothers."

"Magical...being?" Shizuku murmured, knitting his eyebrows together. "What does that mean?"

"Those who live in the demon world. It's a different existence than human. There are all different types, all different powers. Some can teleport, some can move things with their minds... and there are many more. Of course, everyone's abilities are different. We're much more powerful than humans. Not even comparable."

"But I can't do any of those things. And I've never seen my family do anything like that, either. There must be some mistake..."

"Yes, you're an incubus, so you don't possess any of those powers. And your family was just being careful not to use their powers in the human world. Because if they did, it might raise suspicions. It might make other magical beings find them more easily."

"I don't know..." No matter what, he just couldn't believe him. All the knowledge and common sense he had been raised with for seventeen years wouldn't let him.

But at the same time, he didn't think Duga was lying. Deep down inside, he felt like what he was saying was true.

Shizuku was very confused, to the point where not even he realized how much.

Just then there was a soft knock on the door.

"I've brought your tea."

"Enter."

"Excuse me," a young girl said, as she entered the room. Her gleaming silver hair was pinned up and she wore a long dress. The fabric was light and flowing,

almost like it was out of some Greek myth.

She put a tray down on the table and gracefully poured tea into cups. And for some reason...the girl had a third eye on her forehead. The eye was a beautiful pale blue, just like her other two eyes. This confused Shizuku even more.

"W-What? Why?" This just couldn't be real!

Maybe it was a dream. He pinched his own cheek. "Ow!" Maybe he was still dreaming and in his dream he thought it hurt. So there was still a possibility he could wake up. It was possible he had dreamed about a weird guy at his house who teleported him to a strange place.

"Oh, this is just a dream. I do have pretty strange dreams sometimes. Finals are coming soon, so I'm probably just stressed out. Because if I get a bad grade on my math final I'll have to go to summer school. Everyone else in my family is so good at math, why am I so terrible at it? No matter how much I study I just don't get it."

"Sorry to interrupt, but you're not dreaming."

"No, I definitely am. Because this just isn't possible. Teleporting, a person with horns, a girl with three eyes...it can't be real."

"It's normal in the demon world. If three eyes surprises you, you'd better brace yourself. There are some people here who have bull torsos."

Shizuku grimaced. "That sounds like a demon. Aren't there demons like that?"

"Humans modeled them after magical beings. Generally we have no interest in humans, but there are some exceptions. And some of them love teasing

humans. They go to the human world as they please."

"O-Okay..." Shizuku began to get goosebumps. He was starting to get frightened of these so-called magical beings.

But right in front of him, one of those magical beings was gracefully pouring his tea. And if she didn't have that third eye, he might even think she was pretty.

After the girl finished, she bowed and left the room. Duga handed him a cup and saucer. "Here, drink some."

"T-Thank you." As he felt the hard sensation of the cup in his hands, he realized this was really happening and let out a sigh. He realized he was still in Duga's arms, sitting on his lap. It was so strange for him to be sitting on the lap of someone he barely knew, he felt very uncomfortable.

He drank some of the tea to try to calm himself. "Wow...this is delicious!" he said, looking down at the light pink liquid. It smelled like flowers and was faintly sweet. The sweetness was different from sugar, and it had a refreshing aftertaste.

"It's flower tea. Made from pink flower blossoms."

"Wow..." An image of a cherry blossom tree came to Shizuku's mind. "How elegant," he whispered, and savored the scent and taste.

It smelled different than cherry blossoms, but since he had never tasted one he didn't know if it tasted different as well. All he knew was that the tea was delicious. He drank every last drop and set the cup down on the table.

"By the way...I think this is kind of weird," he said to Duga, gesturing to his position on his lap.

"Really?"

"Yes, please let me down."

"No."

"Why not?"

"Because I want to keep holding you like this," Duga said simply, and squeezed him closer. Shizuku didn't know how to respond to this. "I feel good when I touch you."

"..."

"I feel calm when I hold you like this," Duga whispered, and stroked Shizuku's hair. His hands gradually started getting lower and he stroked his neck and back.

For a moment, Shizuku was spellbound and thought how *good* it felt. Duga's hands felt warm, and it was like some strange power was being funneled into him. He sighed. He began to wonder if there was a kind of electricity coming from Duga's hands, and he felt all the tenseness leave his body. After he had completely relaxed there was another knock on the door.

"Guess they're here," Duga murmured. He told them to enter, and Shizuku watched his father and brothers come into the room, all with concerned looks on their faces.

"Dad!" A chill went down his spine and his nervousness returned.

His body instinctively moved to run over to his family, but Duga held him firmly and wouldn't let him go.

Shizuku struggled and tried to break free, but it was no use. "Let me go!"

"You want to go to them instead of staying with me?"

"Of course!"

He didn't even have to think about it. Why would he want to stay here with this man he barely knew instead of returning to his beloved family?

Duga made a displeased face and said in a low voice, "If you say you're choosing them, I'll get rid of them."

"What?"

"I don't mind if my kitten claws me, but I wouldn't forgive it if it sought another owner. I wouldn't kill my kitten, but I would get rid of anything else. Because if they have no owner, they'll come back to me, right?"

"..."

All Shizuku could do was blink. He stared at Duga, wondering what he was trying to say, and if he was joking. But when he looked at his family's faces, he knew.

Duga told the truth when he said if Shizuku chose his family, he would get rid of them. And he knew he was capable of such an act.

"If you love your family, you'll stay with me."

"If you kill my family, I'll kill myself!"

"You think I'd allow that? I wouldn't allow you to lay a finger on yourself, and I'd force you to stay with me."

"..."

Duga said this in such a terrifying voice that

Shizuku gulped. He wasn't the sweet person he had been previously.

Duga saw Shizuku go pale and his eyes softened. "You don't have to be afraid. As long as you are good and stay with me, I won't do anything."

"You won't kill them?"

"That's right. As long as you stay with me."

"..."

Duga put a finger under Shizuku's chin. Then, without saying a word, he touched his lips to Shizuku's.

Shizuku jumped and tried to get away, but the arm that held his waist wouldn't allow it.

"N-No!" he protested between kisses, but Duga wouldn't listen. Instead he took advantage of Shizuku's open mouth and shoved his tongue in, deepening the kiss.

"Nnm..."

A tender sound came from deep within Shizuku's throat.

He realized his family was watching and he desperately tried to pull away. A deep, wet sound echoed throughout the room. Finally Duga released him, and Shizuku's cheeks flushed red. His weak body collapsed against Duga's.

Duga stared at him with a tender look on his face and stroked his cheek. But the glance he gave to Shizuku's family was the complete opposite.

"Do you have any objection to Shizuku staying with me?"

"..."

None of them could respond.



Of course, they had objections. It was their precious Shizuku. They had taken him away to the human world in order to hide him from the cruel Demon King. Of course they would be reluctant to give him up now.

But they couldn't defy the Demon King. Shizuku's father was a very powerful member of the demon world, and his two brothers were also strong, but they were no match against the king. He would erase them in an instant.

So they had to repress their disgrace and humiliation even when Shizuku was being kissed and fondled right in front of them; they could not disobey.

All three of them left the room, still worried about Shizuku.

Shizuku cast an uneasy glance after them.

"Finally, they're gone," Duga said.

Shizuku made a face.

"You look cute when you do that, too."

"..."

Shizuku didn't know what to do anymore. He couldn't think clearly with Duga's perfect, beautiful face in front of him. He tried to climb down off his lap.

"Let me go."

"No. Your place is in my arms."

"W-Why? I just met you!"

"Because you're mine. I want you."

"T-That's unreasonable!"

"I'm the Demon King. I can be unreasonable if I want to. Demon Kings can bend reason."

"H-How can you say that? That's wrong!"

"Who cares? I'm the Demon King."

Shizuku sighed. *What a selfish person.* But at the same time, he knew that's how a king was.

The majority of the kings he had read about in stories were selfish and haughty. Either that, or they were noble kings who cared about people.

And it was obvious which of these Duga was. He acted conceited when he spoke to Shizuku's family. He even said he would "get rid of them"!

But he wasn't completely sure he was one-hundred percent bad. All Shizuku knew was that right now, Duga was trouble.

No matter how much he sulked, Duga's smile never wavered. The more he looked at him with adoring eyes, the more troubled Shizuku felt.

"Why do you keep looking at me like that?"

"Because I want to."

"Well, I'd appreciate it if you stopped staring at me..."

"Why?"

"It makes me...embarrassed. When someone as beautiful as you stares at me like that, even though I know you're a guy—I get scared that I might fall over or something," Shizuku said with a troubled face.

Duga looked genuinely pleased, and laughed. "So then fall. I'll catch you."

"I don't want to fall for a guy."

"Guy or girl, what's the big deal? You're an incubus, so you can transform into a girl whenever you want."

"Huh? What are you talking about?"

"The most powerful ability of an incubus is the ability to change their gender. You can be male or female, depending on your partner. Because you're an incubus. As long as you love each other, who cares if you're a male or female, anyway? It's in an incubus' nature to change genders to enjoy their partner."

"Okay..."

"So, no matter if you're having sex with a male or a female, as long as the sex is good you won't transform. Incubi are very true to their own desires."

"..." Shizuku fell silent, as he realized this was yet another topic that went right over his head.

He really wanted to believe all this was a joke, but unfortunately Duga was serious.

"Listen. What you have to be careful of from now on is incubi."

"Huh? But I thought that's what I was."

"Yes, that's right."

"Then they'd be just like me. So why should I be careful of them? Don't you think that sounds weird?"

"No, not at all. In this world, there is a rule that the only creature who can kill an incubus is a fellow incubus. They are very attractive to other magical creatures here. Everyone adores and wants to protect them. So that's why they wouldn't even think about killing you. But a powerless incubus could kill you with one hand."

"Incubi don't have any power?"

"Yes. It's in exchange for having the ability to enchant others. The sex appeal of an incubus can overcome even the most powerful magical creature of this world."

"Sex appeal?" Shizuku blinked. Even though he was seventeen, he still didn't really understand the concept. He was a late bloomer and it made him feel uneasy.

He had tried to look at adult magazines and had borrowed porn from friends, but for some reason they never had any effect on him. That's why he was doubtful when Duga told him he had sex appeal. But he couldn't exactly tell him that, so instead he just said, "I...don't have any sex appeal."

"Right now you don't. That's because your power as an incubus is still sealed."

"Sealed?"

"Since you were in the human world, your power had to be sealed so you didn't cause trouble for humans. Your father did it so you wouldn't be a danger to yourself or others. He probably sealed you when you were still a baby." Duga suddenly stopped talking and fixed his gaze on Shizuku's chest. "I have a feeling the source of the seal is this." He pulled a delicate golden chain from beneath Shizuku's shirt. A green jewel glittered at the end of the necklace. "At any rate, it looks like this jewel's power is almost exhausted," Duga murmured. Suddenly a sound came from his fingers. The green stone had been destroyed.

"No!" Shizuku was so shocked he couldn't even move.

That jewel was the only memento he had from his mother.

She had died giving birth to him, so he had no memory of her. They had left behind all of her other

things when they moved to their current house, so the jewel had been even more precious to him. And Duga had destroyed it.

"Why?" He could barely speak. Sadness welled up inside of him and he felt as if he would cry.

"Because I had to release your seal. That jewel didn't suit you, anyway. I'll give you one that's even more beautiful."

Shizuku was furious at Duga's attitude. His tears were replaced with intense anger.

"I don't want one! The only thing I want...the thing I cherished most was that stone! Give it back! Give it back!"

"It's better than anything I could give you?!"

"Of course it is!"

"I'll give you the best jewel. An amulet of strength and beauty."

"I don't need anything like that. I don't care how beautiful it is, it won't make me happy. That's my jewel. A memento of my mother! Nothing could replace it!"

Shizuku didn't know what the jewel had been. Since it was green he used to think it was an emerald, but it looked different from the emeralds he saw at the jewelry store. His jewel was perfectly translucent, so much so that it sparkled like a diamond.

But what was precious to him wasn't its value, but that it had been his mother's. That's all he cared about. So no jewel Duga could bring him could replace it.

His message was finally getting across to Duga, who scowled.

"I don't like you to wear anything that's not from

me. It makes me uncomfortable. It makes me want to destroy it."

"Don't be so selfish, you idiot! You're so stuck up! Why are you so mean? I hate you! I hate you!!" Tears started welling up in his eyes again as he screamed.

Duga stared at him, and then sighed. "Fine. I'm sorry."

"It's too late to apologize! I hate you, Duga!"

"I'll fix it for you."

"Huh?" Shizuku stared at him blankly.

He knew that wasn't possible. There was no way he could fix a jewel that had been crushed. Now it was little more than grains of sand.

Just as he thought he couldn't take it anymore, the green grains of sand started to firm up and slowly take its former shape.

"N-No way!" Shizuku blinked in disbelief. He thought it was an optical illusion and rubbed his eyes. But the jewel was in Duga's hand, looking the same as it always did.

"See? I fixed it."

"..."

Duga dropped the jewel into his hand, and Shizuku squeezed it. "T-Thank you." He was so happy that tears streamed down his cheeks.

"So you're gonna cry after all?"

"I'm just so relieved! T-Thank you!"

"You *should* be thankful," Duga said arrogantly. Shizuku glared at him. "You're the one who broke it!"

"I'm the one who fixed it."

"You wouldn't have had to fix it if you hadn't broken it!" Shizuku poked Duga's head angrily but all Duga did was smile. He didn't seem to feel sorry one bit. "You better be sorry!"

"Okay, okay."

"Grrr!" Shizuku sulked.

Duga kissed him once more.

"Mnm..." When Duga kissed him, he couldn't think clearly. It felt like his whole body went weak. The situation got even worse when the kiss deepened and Duga's tongue pushed against his.

"Ahh...mnm..." Shizuku moaned softly. He found himself pushing back with his tongue, and straining his body against Duga's.

"Adorable...you get like this just from a kiss," Duga whispered, tracing Shizuku's hard nipples through his shirt.

"Ahh..."

"Sex feels even better. I'll lick your whole body and make you melt. Then you can do it to me."

"..."

He still couldn't think clearly, but he had a feeling Duga had just said something scary. Finally, when the meaning reached his brain, he realized Duga had already carried him to the bedroom. He heard the door click shut.

Duga put him down on the large canopied bed. Shizuku was shocked back to reality by the cool sheets and realized the predicament he was in.

"D-Duga?"

"What?"



"I-I don't want to do this."

"It's okay. Just lie down." Duga took off Shizuku's blazer and unbuttoned his shirt. His movements were confident and smooth.

In no time he had Shizuku's shirt off and was caressing his skin.

"B-B-B-But!" Shizuku said in a high-pitched voice.

"But what?"

"I said I don't want to!" he protested desperately.

Duga smiled. "Even though you're like this from one kiss?" He reached down between Shizuku's legs and squeezed his erect penis.

"Ahh..." He felt himself pulse inside of Duga's hand. His body was betraying his mind. He began to tremble. "N-No..."

"No what?"

"I...I'm scared."

"There's nothing to be scared of. I'll make you feel really good. I swear I won't hurt you."

"..."

Shizuku wasn't just afraid of the pain. It was something he had never done before and had little knowledge of... and on top of that, it was with another man! A scary man who was the Demon King.

But what he was the most scared of was himself.

When Duga kissed him and touched him, he felt pleasure. His body submitted to the pleasure of it.

"Light pink...you're a virgin, aren't you? This is the first time anyone's touched it, isn't it?" Duga asked as he kissed him.

Shizuku moaned. "Yes..."

"You like this, don't you?"

"N-No..."

"Don't think of anything. Just enjoy it."

"N-No, no, no, no!" He shook his head back and forth.

But he couldn't escape from Duga as he stripped him completely naked, and began to kiss all over his body. Duga's tongue licked beneath his chin, his collarbone, his chest. His tongue gradually went lower and reached his nipples, causing Shizuku to throw his head back. Duga flicked one hard nipple with his finger as he sucked on the other.

Shizuku moaned again and again.

His body was extremely sensitive, as it had never been touched like that by anyone before. Duga played with his hard, pink nipples so stubbornly that Shizuku suddenly came.

"Ahhh!"

The moment Shizuku ejaculated, he stared at Duga in shock. Duga stared back at him. Then he dipped a finger in the cloudy white liquid that had shot onto Shizuku's belly and licked it.

"It's sweet."

"..."

Shizuku's whole body flushed red. He was so embarrassed that he had come just from his nipples being played with.

And on top of that, he felt so much pleasure from Duga stroking his back. He knew he shouldn't like it, but he did, and he wanted to feel something even more intense.

"Ahh...mnnm..."

Shizuku was afraid of his own desire. Even though he had just come, he was afraid of what Duga's caresses might do to him.

He didn't know what was going to happen.

"I'm scared..."

"Scared of what?"

"My body melting..." Shizuku said in a tearful voice.

Duga laughed. "You're so cute...don't worry, your body won't actually melt."

"But...I feel like it will."

He had proof—his body was completely limp. Shizuku's body was seeking the pleasure Duga gave it, and all he could think about was his desire.

Duga's hand slowly stroked up and down his shaft which spilled out nectar. The liquid had dripped down and Duga followed it, tracing the outline of his asshole.

Even when Duga's wet finger poked inside, Shizuku's body didn't resist. For a second he jumped at the foreign feeling, but then his legs just naturally opened, letting him inside.

Duga stimulated him from behind and from the front until he was experiencing so much pleasure he was unsure where it came from.

He put two, then three fingers inside and started moving them in and out, making a wettish noise.

"N-No, I can't take it..."

"You want it?"

Shizuku didn't understand what Duga meant and nodded his head. He had to do something about the heat

that was building up inside of his body.

When Duga took out his fingers, Shizuku moaned, partly because of the stimulation and partly because he didn't want him to take them out.

"I'll give you something even better."

"..."

Shizuku didn't know what that meant, but he clung to Duga anyway.

Duga's hands lifted up Shizuku's legs and spread them wide. Shizuku was so enraptured in pleasure that he barely noticed.

His asshole still felt hot. When something that was not a finger slipped into it, Shizuku opened his eyes wide in shock.

Scorching heat raced through his entire body. The heat from Duga's cock spread to Shizuku's body, making him moan.

It was the first time anything like this had been done to his body, and he realized he wanted it—his body was welcoming Duga's penis inside him.

"N-No..." he whispered in disbelief. But it was actually happening. Shizuku didn't feel any pain at all, only pleasure. "H-How?"

They were both men, it wasn't supposed to be possible to join their bodies together. Yet Shizuku found out that it was.

"Your little asshole is opening as wide as it can to let me in, Shizuku. It looks so adorable...so filthy."

"D-Don't look at it..."

"You're so cute. I'm gonna start now." True to his word, Duga started moving his hips back and forth.

What came from Shizuku's mouth next wasn't a scream of protest. It was a moan of delight. He thought it would be painful, but all he felt was extreme pleasure.

His consciousness felt hazy and it scared him. But he was even more scared that this pleasure would end.

Duga's large manhood thrust as deeply as possible into Shizuku.

Shizuku clung desperately to Duga's back.

"Does it feel good?" Duga asked him, and Shizuku nodded.

"Mmm...yes...it feels...so...good..."

Shizuku lost himself in his pleasure.

"Shizuku...Shizuku..." He heard a voice coming from somewhere, calling his name.

"Nmm..." he moaned, rolling over in his sleep to try to escape the voice.

"Time to get up. It's already morning. Aren't you hungry?"

"Mm...hungry?" His nose perked up at those words. He smelled something delicious.

Even though he was still exhausted, his body was drawn to the smell. "Food..."

"If you don't get up soon, I'm going to eat it all. What do you think about that?"

"No!" Shizuku was suddenly wide awake.

"Hm? Where am I?" he asked, and then the events of the previous day came flooding back to him.



"Demon world...Demon King..."

"That's me, Duga. Morning, Shizuku."

Duga gave him a good morning kiss on the forehead, cheek, and lips. Then he stuck his tongue in his mouth. Shizuku felt lightheaded at such a passionate kiss so early in the morning. He couldn't take the stimulation.

Just that simple action reminded him of how weak he was against the sensation of pleasure.

One kiss from Duga melted all sense of reason, and he would do whatever he wanted. Even though he knew it was wrong and he shouldn't, his reason didn't stand a chance against the pleasure Duga gave him.

Duga looked thoroughly satisfied at Shizuku in his arms. He smiled. "Heh heh...you really are adorable. I'm sorry we can't sit like this forever." He kissed Shizuku again, and regretfully let him go.

Finally Shizuku came to and realized he was still naked. "Um, where are my clothes?"

"Oh, I got rid of them. Put this on instead."

"..."

He had been taken from his house so suddenly he hadn't had time to bring any extra clothes. So he had no choice but to wear something that resembled Duga's own outfit. Shizuku wasn't used to the style at all.

"But why did you get rid of them?"

He could have at least washed them so they could be worn again. And at any rate, that was his school uniform. He'd get in trouble if Duga got rid of it.

"Those clothes didn't look good on you. You're an incubus from the demon world, so therefore you should

wear the clothes we wear."

"Hmm..." Shizuku felt doubtful. He still hadn't come to grips with the fact that he was originally from this world and that he was something called an incubus. "I guess it would be even more strange if I just accepted it right off the bat," he murmured to himself. Since he didn't have anything else to wear, he put on the clothes.

When he gave them a second look, he noticed they were very flowing, like something out of a myth. They were sleeveless, perhaps because of the warm climate, and the fabric only went down to about mid-thigh.

But since there were also pants to go along with it, it almost looked like he was wearing them under a skirt.

"Do you know how to put them on?"

"Uh, I think so."

Their appearance was certainly different from normal clothes, but they didn't look too complicated. Shizuku stayed under the sheets while he changed, and he felt Duga's eyes on him the entire time. "Oh, these are pretty comfortable." The fabric felt nice against his skin and it was very lightweight.

"Just as I thought. Looks good on you."

"Hmm..." Even though he thought the clothes looked strange, they weren't uncomfortable.

At any rate, Duga was wearing the same type of clothes, and so was the girl he saw the day before. Apparently it was the normal kind of dress in this world. He didn't want to look strange to everyone else, so he was secretly glad he no longer had to wear his school uniform. "As they say, when in Rome, do as the Romans do. I don't care much about clothes, anyway."

The only thing that bothered him about it was that the clothes were completely white. They would get dirty easily, and would probably be a pain to wash.

"Wouldn't black be easier to take care of?" He glanced at Duga, who wore all black. He doubted Duga knew anything about laundry, but it was true that the black looked good on him.

So why didn't he have Shizuku wear black as well? He gave up trying to figure it out, and realized he shouldn't complain about what he had been given.

"I'm hungry."

"The food's ready," Duga said. He picked Shizuku up, and carried him to the living room.

A picture-perfect breakfast was laid out on the large table.

There were various kinds of pastries and toast, fluffy omelets, and bacon. Orange juice, flower tea and fruit were also on the table.

"Looks delicious!"

"This was specially made for you, so eat all you like."

All that was in front of Duga was tea.

"Hmm? Aren't you going to eat, Duga?"

"I don't need to get my nourishment from food. You're an incubus, so you should have gotten enough nourishment from yesterday's sex, but you're probably too used to the customs of the human world. You like to eat, right?"

"Yeah, I like it—but if I don't eat, I get hungry. And...I'd die!"

Shizuku reached his hand towards an apple-filled



pastry and brought it happily towards his mouth.

"Yummy!"

"Glad you like it."

"So does that mean you won't die if you don't eat? Because you're the Demon King?"

"That's not exactly right. The reason you get hungry is because you lived as a human for so long. The only creatures in this world who need to eat for nourishment are the weak ones. Everyone else doesn't have that need."

"So then how do they get their nourishment?"

"Normally we can just absorb the natural energy that plants and the atmosphere give off. But in order to get lots of power, the best way is to steal it from others."

"Steal it?" Shizuku raised an eyebrow.

He didn't know what kind of world the demon world was. The explanation he had been given the day before wasn't sufficient. "So...I can live without having to eat?"

"Well, you're an incubus, so you don't receive energy from the environment. Incubi receive their energy from others. Doesn't matter if they're demon or human. You can receive nourishment from food, but that won't be enough for you."

"But...I've never received energy from anyone else. I don't even know how to do it!"

"The best way is sex. That will give you maximum energy. In your case, your father and brothers probably gave you some of their energy without you realizing it. Powerful creatures can do this from a mere touch of the

hand or a kiss on the cheek. When I think about it, it makes me want to destroy them," Duga said, his eyes laced with malice. Shizuku suddenly felt like he was going to choke on his second pastry.

"Why are you saying that again?"

"I have a reputation for being cruel and heartless. What's wrong with getting rid of something you don't like?"

"It's wrong! You can't say something like that so lightly. Don't do it! I told you my family is precious to me!"

"That's why I want to get rid of them..."

"Duga!!"

"Well, I can get rid of someone else. If I let them live, you'll be more open with me."

"Um, are you threatening me?"

"The end justifies the means. As long as I'm happy with the outcome, it doesn't matter to me how it's achieved."

"..."

Duga has a terrible personality, Shizuku thought. He obviously thought he could do anything, which made Shizuku worry about his family. He furrowed his brow as he stuffed an omelet into his mouth. "I won't forgive you if you do something mean to my family."

"What do you consider 'mean'? What about if I torture them to the point where they forget everything?"

"Torture?! No way! That's super mean! If you did that I would never, ever, ever forgive you!!"

"Hmph. So what if I inflict pain on them but not enough to be called torture?"

"No, you can't hurt them at all! Not even the slightest bit! Not even mentally!"

"That's pretty harsh."

"It's *normal*! Don't you have any common sense, or does everyone in this world *not* have any common sense?"

"It's eat or be eaten here. Of course there are rules, but since I'm the Demon King they don't apply to me. No one would ever dare to complain no matter who I hurt."

"Well, I would! You kidnapped me the first day you met me, threatened to kill my family, and then you did...*that* to me! You're a weirdo, Duga!!"

"Okay, okay, stop making that adorable face. I can't carry you to bed while you're eating!"

Shizuku couldn't believe his ears. "What? I'm angry at you, Duga!"

"Yeah, I know. It's adorable."

"..."

He didn't understand Duga at all. Shizuku was exhausted and decided to concentrate on eating instead of talking.

He ate until he was full, and then asked to be shown to the bathroom. He washed his hands and face and wiped them with a towel. When he caught a glimpse of himself in the mirror, he was shocked.

His face looked different. Of course it was his

face, but it looked *different*. His pale skin looked even more translucent, like there was some kind of light glowing from within him. His large, reddish-brown eyes sparkled. His usually light pink lips were ruby red.

For the first time in his life, Shizuku actually thought he looked attractive. Even though people had told him so over and over, it never actually sunk in until that moment. That's how brilliantly he shone.

"W-Why?"

He was stunned. He didn't understand how his appearance could have changed so much overnight.

"Oh yeah...I heard that it's painful to be the bottom in gay sex, so why didn't it hurt? Also, I feel much lighter than usual..."

He stretched a bit to test it out, and he didn't feel sore or painful anywhere. He felt like he was in top shape. "Something's weird here..."

He stared at himself in the mirror for so long that Duga came to check on him.

"Why are you staring at yourself like that?" Duga asked, laughing.

Shizuku literally couldn't take his eyes off of himself. "I-I look different."

"Different?"

"Yeah, my face and my skin...seem different somehow."

"Oh, that."

"Do you know what it is?"

"It's because I removed the seal your father put on you. The one that suppressed your power as an incubus."

"My power as an incubus?"

"Yes, he had to seal it to hide you from demons who would be searching for you."

"..."

"Your appearance now is your true appearance. Because you're one of us. You feel more beautiful and charming, right? Your power as an incubus is that beauty and charm. But the reason you sparkle so brightly now is because you received some of my energy. I'm very powerful, and since I entered you, your entire body is full of it."

"You don't have to be so blunt," Shizuku said, his face darkening.

"Why not? Any other person in this world would kill to have some of my energy!"

"I just want to live normally! But if I'm all sparkly like this it'll just cause trouble. Put that seal back on me."

"There's no need. This is the demon world, so even if I did put the seal back, your power as an incubus would leak out. That's why your father took you to the human world. But if I let everyone know you're mine, no one else will dare touch you. And even if you shed a tear and say no, most normal demons won't be able to force you. That's how special an incubus is in this world."

"Hmm, I see...wait a second, if you let people know I'm *yours*?"

"Well, you are! It might take a while for your heart...but your body is already mine!"

"T-That was just an accident..."

"Yeah, right. Like you didn't love it."

"Well, it did feel good..." Shizuku blushed, thinking of the night before. He had been very reluctant, but his body had responded. It felt much better than he ever imagined. He finally realized exactly what being an incubus meant, and was shocked that he felt acceptance towards it.

But he still felt uneasy. Ever since he was a child he had been kind of withdrawn, so when he thought about what was going to happen to him now, he felt so uneasy he couldn't take it.

He held his head in his hands and whispered, "Duga...I want to see my family."

"Absolutely not."

"Why not?!"

"Because it makes me uncomfortable."

"..."

He wanted to yell, "Who cares?" but it was Duga. The selfish, stuck-up Demon King.

He suppressed his anger and said, "If you don't let me see them, I'm going to be very unhappy. I'll get angry that you're so mean and hit you."

"That might be really cute." Duga looked strangely happy as he imagined it.

Shizuku couldn't understand him and was getting fed up. He decided to change strategies.

"Don't you feel sorry for me that I was brought here against my will? I'm lonely. If you don't let me see my family, I'm going to cry."

"That might be even more adorable."

Shizuku sighed. Everything he did was cute or adorable to Duga, and he was sick of it.

"Just let me see my family! Let me, let me, let me!!"

He hadn't thrown a tantrum in a long time. His family had spoiled him, so he had never done so at home. But sometimes when he didn't get his way with friends, he would.

Duga finally seemed to realize he was truly mad, and nodded. "Fine."

"Really? Is it really okay? I want to see them right now! Right now!"

"I told you, okay!" Duga said angrily, but he didn't move.

Now it was Shizuku's turn to get angry. "Then let me see them right now!"

"They're coming!"

"Huh? But you didn't tell them to."

"They're already on their way."

"How do you know that?"

"Because I'm the Demon King."

Shizuku had no idea what Duga was talking about, as usual. Maybe being the Demon King made him omniscient or something. But he did believe him, and nodded.

A few moments later there was a knock at the door.

"Come in," Duga intoned.

The door quietly opened, revealing Shizuku's father and brothers.

"Daaad!" Shizuku ran over to him, crying.

"Shizuku! Are you okay?"

"I'm so happy to see you!"

Even though they had seen each other the day before, it felt like forever. All four of them hugged.

"Don't touch him," Duga ordered. He took Shizuku and set him upon his lap, then told the family to sit down.

"Pardon us," Shizuku's father said.

Shizuku wanted to keep hugging his family, but Duga wouldn't let him. "I don't want you here while I talk to them," he said angrily.

"Don't pay attention to me."

"I can't help it! You're going to be glaring at us the whole time!"

That's what he had been doing ever since his family had come in.

"Who cares if I glare?"

"I do! Just let me have some time alone with them, please!"

"..."

"Duga!" Shizuku stared at him with all his might.

Finally Duga sighed. "Fine. But only one hour. Not a minute more."

"You're a tyrant, Duga!"

"Don't be so greedy."

"Grrr."

Shizuku's father laughed. "An hour is fine, thank you."

"And don't touch Shizuku, either!"

"Very well."

Duga looked satisfied then, and left the room.

"Whoa, I can't believe the Demon King actually listened to Shizuku," his older brother said, impressed.

"Huh? He wasn't listening at all! I told him to bring me back home and he wouldn't, and even though I didn't want to, he—" Shizuku stopped himself. He was about to tell them what had happened the night before, but he couldn't go on. He blushed and forced a cough.

His family looked like they had an inkling of what he was about to say, but didn't press him any further.

"But he let you see us, right? And alone, too. The Demon King never lets anyone tell him what to do."

"Yeah, he's a selfish, stuck-up Demon King."

"Well, all Demon Kings are like that..."

"We've met him a few times before, but this is the first time we've ever actually come face to face with him. Even though Dad's important here, he still looks down on us."

"He probably doesn't even remember our names."

"Really?" Shizuku couldn't believe that anyone could forget his handsome older brothers. But from Duga's point of view, they were probably just nameless children of his father. "So if he doesn't care about Kiri-chan or Sou-chan, why is he so interested in me?" He said this with a smile, but it wasn't a joke anymore. Duga had had sex with him. He realized the conversation was leading in that direction and suddenly changed the subject. "Umm, I just don't know what's going on. Demon world, incubus...can you explain everything to me?"

"We planned on it. It wasn't necessary for you to know while we lived in the human world, but now we can't go back there."

"What? We can't go back?"

"Not with the Demon King being like that."

"Really?" Shizuku's shoulders drooped. "So that means we have to live here now?"

"Yes. So that's why you need to know things."

After that, his father explained to him all the details about the demon world he needed to know.

The demon world was a completely different world from the human world, and the only ones who could freely travel between them were the strongest. There was also something called the angel world, but they didn't get along with them so no one went there.

Apparently Shizuku's father was very high-ranking in this world, and he was called the Demon King's aide. His brothers were also very strong. The reason only Shizuku was an incubus was because a relative on his mother's side had been one, and he had gotten those genes.

Since his father already had two sons to take over for him, he was genuinely happy when his third son was born as an incubus. Shizuku's mother was much older than his father, and she knew when she gave birth to Shizuku that her time was running out.

Incubi were loved. Shizuku's mother knew this even when he was in her belly, and she was happy to exchange her life for his.

Incubi might not have much physical power, but they had influence over even the strongest demons.

The girl with the third eye brought in snacks and tea for them. In no time, an hour had passed.

"Time's almost up."

"Can't you stay longer? Duga hasn't come back yet. Just a little longer..."

"We promised we'd only stay an hour. The king will be upset if we break our promise."

"Yeah, he probably would be."

"That's why we have to honor it. You should ask him to see us every day."

"Okay. He'll probably say no, but I'll make him."

His family laughed. "Only you'd be able to do that. If anyone else did, he'd kill them."

"Before, I threw a huge tantrum and yelled at him."

"That's why you'll be okay. Even the cruel and heartless Demon King is weak against you."

"He's really stuck-up."

"Because he's the Demon King."

"Yeah, that's what he said, too. Why does everyone say that, anyway?" Shizuku asked, scrunching his face up.

"Because he rules this world. He's more powerful than any of us."

"You couldn't beat him even if everyone teamed up?"

"Nope. Even if every single demon in this world fought against him at once, he'd destroy them in a second. That's how powerful he is."

"Wow." He thought about how he acted towards Duga, and cold sweat appeared on his forehead.

He couldn't exactly be polite to him after he had been kidnapped and had bad things done to him, but he finally realized that Duga could easily have killed him. But since he hadn't and still put up with him, Shizuku figured it would be okay.

"Don't worry, Shizuku. You can tell him whatever you want."

"Yeah. At the least, we wanna see that Demon King be pushed around for our revenge!"

"I agree. Give him hell!"

Shizuku was surprised at his family's reactions, and figured he wasn't the only one who had a bone to pick with the Demon King.

"He's such a selfish tyrant," Shizuku said, totally convinced. He regretfully watched as his family left the room.

After a while the three-eyed girl brought him more tea and snacks, but it was too boring to sit in the room all by himself. It didn't seem like Duga was coming back to the room anytime soon, so Shizuku stood up and put his hand on the doorknob. He opened the door and looked around carefully.

"No one's here..."

He was in an unfamiliar place...the demon world. And on top of that, the imperial palace. Shizuku was extremely curious about what kind of place it was.

"I'll just look around a little..."

If Duga caught him he'd probably get angry, but he thought he'd be fine if he stayed close to the room.

Even if he ran into some demons they wouldn't know who he was; and if he got into any danger, Duga

had told him all he had to do was cry and use his abilities as an incubus.

He picked a random direction to begin walking in, and he was impressed by what he saw. "So this is the imperial palace...everything is so large and elegant. All the columns and walls are decorated."

In the human world, Shizuku had lived in an upper-class neighborhood and their house had been very large, but not nearly as grand as this. Because this wasn't a house—it was a palace.

He looked around, awed even by the construction of the doors.

But what was strange was that he hadn't run into anyone. The palace was big so he figured that a lot of people must be working here, but he hadn't seen anyone yet.

"Perhaps because I'm close to the king's room? Maybe no one comes near here..." He felt like no matter how strange of a demon he came across he wouldn't be scared, and even though he prepared himself not to scream, he felt on edge.

"This is boring!"

He had secretly hoped to run into someone who truly looked like a demon.

"Maybe I should turn back."

If he went too far, he wouldn't be able to find his way back to the room. And he didn't want Duga to find out he had left.

But he still wanted to explore his surroundings a little. He hadn't seen anything too strange yet, or run into any scary demons.

He decided to walk around just a bit more, and as soon as he turned the corner he finally saw a demon.

"Are you Shizuku?" the creature asked, staring at him. Even though they were meeting for the first time, Shizuku sensed hostility in his voice.

How did he know his name?

"Yes...who are you?"

"I'm Yui. An incubus."

"An incubus?"

That's what they had told Shizuku he was. His father had explained the basics of what that meant to him, but he still didn't feel like he was one. But at the very least he understood that he had met someone just like him.

"Umm...that's what I've been told I am."

"Yes, I heard. But you look so plain with those brown eyes and brown hair. Are you sure you're really an incubus?" His tone of voice was snobby and sarcastic.

Shizuku's face tightened at the hostility in his voice.

His father and brothers had doted on him so much that he had a naïveté about him. But that didn't mean he was timid. He wasn't the kind of person who would go crying to bed if someone bullied him.

"Yeah, well, you look gaudy. Plus, you're annoying. Your eyes are all squinty and make you look evil. I guess the ugliness of your personality came out on your face."

"What did you say?"

"The truth. You've been mean to me from the beginning. It makes me sick!"

Yui squinted his eyes even more at Shizuku's words.

The two incubi squared off angrily.

Yui was wearing clothes that resembled Shizuku's, but instead they were black. His shoulders were bare and he wasn't wearing pants, so his legs were also bare. All in all, he exposed a lot of skin.

Shizuku hadn't seen anyone wearing clothes like this before. If he were still in the human world, it would look like a uniform that was worn out of shape.

In Shizuku's high school there were guys who would alter their pants or tie their neckties in weird ways in order to be different, and he also saw female high school students who wore their skirts shorter.

That made him think Yui was like a high school girl trying to get attention by shortening his skirt.

"Do all incubi wear clothes like that?"

"No. I just wear my clothes how I want. How it looks good on me. It's dorky to wear clothes that hide so much of your body. It's proof you have no self-confidence," Yui said purposefully, eyeing Shizuku's clothes.

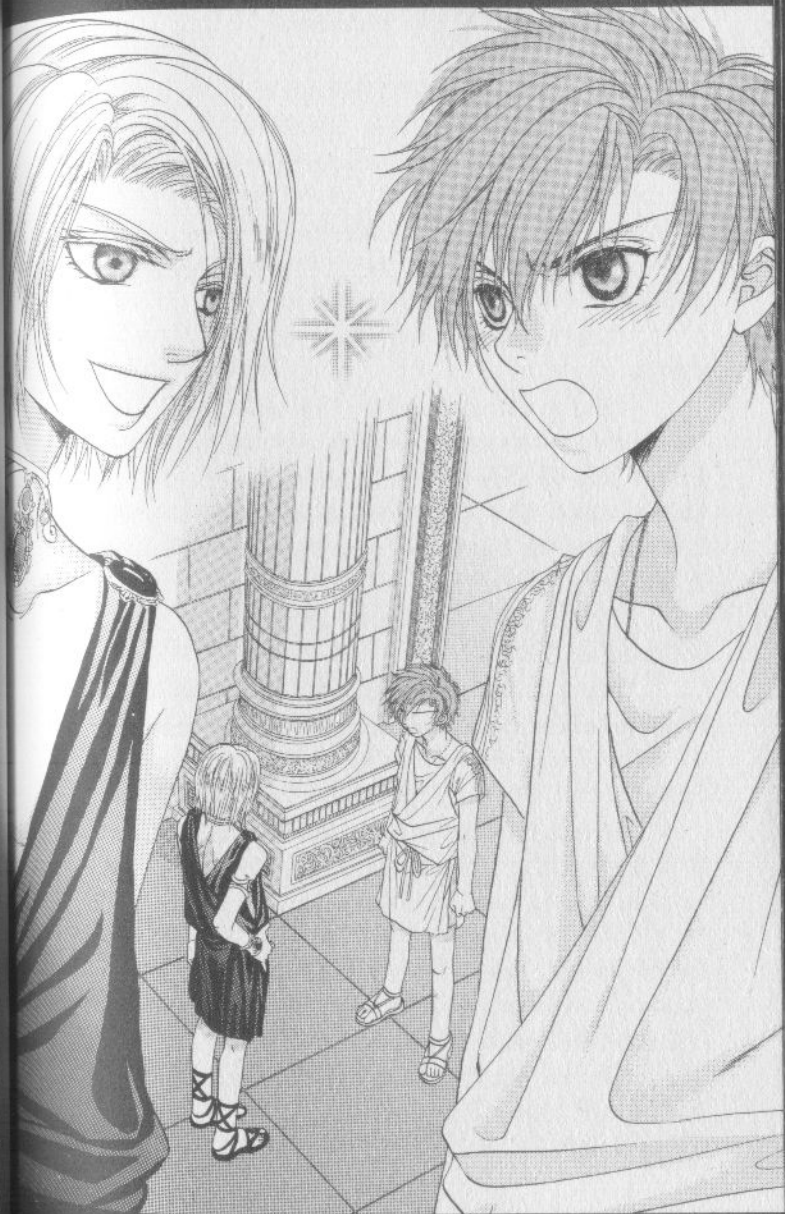
Shizuku chuckled, thinking he was making excuses just like a high school girl would.

"What's so funny?"

"Oh, sorry. I feel like I've heard the exact same thing before in the human world. I guess demons and humans are similar in some ways."

"G-Give me a break! Me, resemble a human? What a terrible insult!" Yui snorted.

Shizuku tilted his head. "That's an insult?"



"Of course it is! Why the hell would you say I am anything like those powerless humans! How rude!"

"But I heard that compared to other demons, incubi aren't that powerful."

"Even if we don't have much power, we have a charm that makes up for it. We're wanted by all demons."

"That's pretty cool. Oh yeah, I'm an incubus, too!"

"You're a freak incubus. The worst kind. You were brought up in the human world, plus you look like that. I can't believe you with those plain brown eyes and that hair. Usually incubi have beautiful silver or gold hair like me, or even bright red. And clear blue or green eyes is the norm."

Shizuku was starting to get angry at repeatedly being called "plain."

"My hair isn't plain brown. My family and even Duga says it's a pretty reddish-brown. And that my eyes are so beautiful, they look delicious and wanna eat them up."

He was telling the truth, but he had purposefully brought up Duga's name. Since Yui lived in this world, he must know that Duga was special.

Yui's lips tightened and he said, "There's no way the king would like a plain incubus like you. You're so plain you're unusual, so he probably just wanted to try you out. He'll get sick of you sooner or later."

"Try me out? You're really rude, aren't you? It'll work out better for me if he *does* get sick of me. Then I can go home."

What he said was true, but it did make him angry to think of being used and tossed away. "How could he get sick of me after kidnapping me and forcing himself on me? Duga pisses me off!"

Duga had never said any of this, but he still found himself getting angry at him.

As he grumbled to himself, someone appeared in front of him.

"Shizuku."

"Duga!? Ahh, you scared me!"

"What are you doing here?"

"You said I could only talk to my family for one hour. But it was too boring sitting in the room by myself, so I came out here."

"You should have called for me, then."

"No way."

He had finally been free of Duga for a while, why would he want to call him back?

As he and Duga talked, Yui's expression softened. His eyes didn't look so hostile and he stood there meekly. He waited for a pause in their conversation, and finally spoke.

"It's been a long time, my king. How have you been?"

"You don't need to greet me. Shizuku, let's go back to the room," Duga said, and picked him up in his arms. He began walking.

"What? Already? But I haven't seen anything yet. He's the only demon I've met!"

"You don't need to meet anyone else."

"Yes, I do! I don't want him to be the only one

I've met. He's terrible! Who is he, anyway? Friend of yours?"

"I don't know him."

"Huh? But he just said hi to you. And he was all mean to me and insulted me."

"I might have met him once or twice. I don't remember. I've met many incubi. I'm not going to remember every single one."

"But he was so stuck up."

"Want me to get rid of him?"

"What?"

"If he bothers you, I'll erase him."

Shizuku finally understood what he meant. He shook his head furiously.

"I-I never said that!"

"Are you sure?"

"I don't want you to do that. You shouldn't say something like that so easily!"

"But I can easily do so."

"That's what's scary!" He wanted to know why Duga kept threatening to get rid of everyone. And if it was just "because he's the Demon King," that was too cruel.

"I wanna go home..."

He was only seventeen...he hadn't had a chance to live his life yet. He just wanted a normal, peaceful life.

But instead, he was being carried in the arms of the Demon King. He wondered if he was too heavy, but Duga carried him as if he were light as a feather.

"I can walk by myself."

"I know."

"..."

Shizuku figured whatever he said was futile. When they came to Duga's room, he saw a very tall man standing there.

He was probably two meters tall. He didn't appear to be a monster, and at first glance he resembled a regular human. He looked very strong.

"Whoa, he's huge!" Shizuku stared up at him, impressed.

"This is your bodyguard."

"Bodyguard?"

"Yes. For when I'm not here. He will also be with you when you meet with your family."

"Why?"

He didn't really understand what having a bodyguard meant.

The large man politely opened the door for them. He didn't seem to want to come in, and quickly closed the door after them without saying a word.

Duga put Shizuku down in a chair and stroked his hair.

"To protect you."

"From what?"

"I can't let you go walking around alone. Too many incubi will interfere. And I want you to be my companion, but it will still take time for word to get around."

"Companion? What does that mean?"

"You know, companion. I guess humans would call it...a wife? A queen."

"W-Wife? Queen?! But I'm a guy!"

"No one will care about that."

"I will! Why do you think you can make me do whatever you want with me? I'm a guy! I don't want to be anyone's wife!"

"It's not just anyone. I'm the Demon King."

"I don't care who you are! I refuse! I don't want to be anyone's wife! There's no way I want to be a queen! No, no, no!"

"Why not? I'll give you anything you want. Grant you any wish. That's how much power I have."

"Then let me go home! And never bother me again!"

"I can't do that."

"You said you'd give me anything I want. Liar!"

"I won't let you go. What about a jewel? I have one even bigger and more beautiful than yours. I'll make it into a crown for you."

Duga must have thought that sounded very attractive, but Shizuku wasn't interested at all.

"I don't want anything like that. I'm not a girl! I don't care about jewels. I love my necklace only because it's a memento from my mother! I don't want a crown!"

"Then I can get you beautiful fabric to make you any kind of clothes you want. With gold and silver threads...anything you want."

"No! I said, I'm a guy! A guy! I have no interest in clothes or jewels! And I don't like anything so flashy anyway!"

"So then what do you want?"

"I wanna go home!"

"I said that's impossible."

"Then I don't want anything!" Shizuku yelled, turning his face away from Duga, sulking.

Duga looked troubled. "Don't pout. I want to make you happy."

"How can you say that when you won't even listen to me?"

"Don't say you want to leave me. As long as it's not that, I'll listen to anything. Do you hate this world...and me, so much?"

Shizuku couldn't say anything when Duga looked at him so tenderly.

Even though Duga's actions were usually so violent, he was very kind to Shizuku. There was no way he could deny that.

But even still, there was no way he wanted to stay in this world.

"I hate being annoyed. I hate changing environments. I even hate changing classes at school! So how can I deal with this world, and a Demon King, and being queen!"

"What's annoying about it? You don't have to do anything except be by my side."

"That's what's annoying! I don't want to be called queen. It's a lie that all you want is for me to be with you, anyway!"

Even though it had been Shizuku's first time, Duga had still made him come many times. He knew there was more to Duga's desires than that.

"You're right. It's a lie that I just want to be with you. I want you to be with me in bed, too."

"I didn't do it because I liked it!"

"Really? Because halfway through you were the one doing it."

"..."

"You were moaning and asked for more, remember?"

Shizuku really didn't want to think about that. But he couldn't deny it.

"Grrrr." He glared at Duga.

Duga reached out and stroked Shizuku's nipples through his clothes.

"Aghh!" Shizuku's body twitched. His nipples stood up from the stimulus. "I-It's still the afternoon! And light outside!"

"Who cares?"

"I do!" Shizuku said indignantly.

Duga shook his head. "You're too stuck on the ways of the human world. You can have sex any time of the day."

"I've lived my entire life in the human world. I go by the common sense I learned there. And there, sex is something you do at night!"

"But you are a resident of this world by nature. And in this world you can do whatever you want no matter what time of day it is."

"Grrr." Shizuku knew he wouldn't be able to get the better of Duga no matter what he said.

"Do you wanna do it in the chair or the bed?"

"I have a choice?"

"Of course."

"Can I choose not to do it at all?"

"No."

"..."

Duga's hands were already working to undress him. If he started complaining, he knew he would probably start on him while he was sitting in the chair. Unfortunately Shizuku didn't have a strong enough will to protest or keep saying no.

Maybe Duga even giving him a choice was a sign that he respected him. According to his father, Duga wasn't the kind of person who listened to anyone.

He wished Duga would at least listen to him when he said he didn't want to do it, but after all, he was the Demon King. He wouldn't change his mind.

Shizuku sighed and decided to at least get some pleasure out of it.

"I guess the bed."

"All right, then." Duga nodded, satisfied, and carried him over to the bed.

He undressed Shizuku completely, leaving him blushing.

"A-At least draw the curtain."

"No. I want to see you."

"But I'm embarrassed."

"Why? You're so beautiful."

"..."

Duga said this in such a serious voice, Shizuku turned red all over. Duga ran his hands down Shizuku's body and spread his legs.

He slowly and carefully gave Shizuku pleasure, making him moan with desire.

Duga licked between Shizuku's spread legs and rubbed his asshole with his finger.

"Shizuku, your hips are moving."

"N-No, they're not." As Shizuku said this, he realized it was the truth. Even when he tried to stop, it was no use.

"Does it feel good?"

"Mmm...yes." He couldn't even lie this time. It felt so good he thought he might cry.

Duga already knew it made him feel good, so why try to hide it? Even if he denied it, his body couldn't hide the truth.

"Want more?"

"Yes..."

Duga went slowly. He gave Shizuku what he wanted and took his penis into his mouth.

"Ahhh, *ahhh*..." Shizuku moaned. He thought he was going to come just from being in Duga's warm mouth. Duga gripped his shaft and sucked on him hard, making Shizuku writhe.

"Mmm...let me...come," Shizuku moaned.

"How?"

"Take your...hand off."

"Okay," Duga nodded and did so. But at the same time he stopped sucking him.

"Mmm..."

Duga was mean. He knew what Shizuku wanted, but he did this on purpose anyway.

He lost the stimulation on his cock, but Duga's fingers still moved inside of him. This felt very good, but it wasn't enough stimulation to make him come. His hips started moving, seeking pleasure.

"Ahhn...mmm."

He stretched his hands out but Duga stopped him. "What's wrong?"

"..."

Duga knew what he wanted. But he wouldn't give it to him unless he said it.

Shizuku reached both his arms out to Duga and his whole body flushed red. "F-Fuck me..."

"That's it," Duga said, nodding with satisfaction. He took his fingers out of Shizuku's ass and thrust his own hard cock inside all the way to the base.

"Ahhh...it's so big!" Even though this was what he wanted, he was still a little scared at first.

"It's okay. You know it feels good, right?"

"Mm-hmm..."

Duga had never hurt him. The only thing he had given him was pleasure.

"Look, I'm all in. It didn't hurt, right?"

"Right..."

He realized that Duga was being gentle, so he relaxed. Even though he was a selfish, stuck-up Demon King, he trusted that he would never try to hurt him.

"Move in me," Shizuku whispered.

Duga slowly started to move. At the same time, he wrapped Shizuku up in his arms.

"Ahhh..."

Those were the caresses he waited so eagerly for. Pleasure raced through his body and Duga penetrated him over and over again.

"Ahh...mmm...I'm gonna...coooooome!"

Shizuku moaned loudly as he ejaculated. He could feel Duga swell inside of him as well.

“...”

Shizuku panted, and his whole body felt warm. It was the energy from Duga's cum.

Duga grabbed him and turned him over on his stomach, without withdrawing.

“Hmm? Ah, wait! I'm not ready...ahh!” His protests changed to moans of pleasure.

His voice reverberated in the bedroom, still filled with sunlight.

Duga wouldn't hear of letting Shizuku go home.

It wasn't that he couldn't stand his current life, but it wasn't like he was completely satisfied with it, either. But since Shizuku had been raised in the human world, he just wasn't used to this world.

Even though he didn't feel uncomfortable, this still wasn't his home. And he was also waited on hand and foot. And on top of that, it was by a girl with three eyes!

It seemed like all the servants were lesser demons, and many of them were strange-looking. Apparently all the very strong demons looked much like humans.

Shizuku couldn't relax. He was surrounded by unfamiliar things, and it set him on edge.

He longed for his old life in the human world.

He never had to worry about anything back then, except maybe steering clear of perverts on the train.

The most painful thing about his life now was that



he couldn't see his family whenever he wanted. He was happy that he got to spend an hour each day with them, but it just wasn't the same. He couldn't touch them or Duga would get angry.

And he would find out because of the guard.

He was so silent Shizuku wondered if he could even talk at all, but he figured Duga had probably ordered him not to talk unless it was absolutely necessary. So he couldn't be the conversation partner Shizuku was looking for.

When he wasn't in the room with his family, he was standing outside the door like a statue. If Shizuku tried to touch his family, he would pull them apart.

He was in an unfamiliar world with a scary-faced guard. He just couldn't get used to it.

The guard was frighteningly loyal to the Demon King, and even if Shizuku tried to talk to him, he'd ignore him and stand there, stone-faced.

Shizuku just wanted to talk to someone else besides his family for a change, so he tried to do that with the girl who brought him meals—the three-eyed girl named Iruma.

"Here's your tea."

"Thanks."

When Shizuku stared at her eye too much, she would get a shy look on her face.

But he was naturally curious, so he found himself looking at it a lot.

"Um, does everyone in your family have a third eye?"

"Yes. Everyone in my clan does. Since we

don't have magical powers, this eye helps us see far distances."

"You can see farther than normal people?"

"Yes. We can also see evil and lies. So my father and brother work as sentries in the palace."

"Oh, so no bad guys get in? That's cool!"

"There's a high crime rate in the city, and thieves always try to break in here. But none of them would be foolish enough to try to attack the king, so they serve to protect other demons who live here."

"Wow." Shizuku was impressed that Duga would hire people to protect someone other than himself.

After seeing Shizuku's reaction, Iruma smiled and said something that made him want to crawl into a hole. "I'm so happy that my king has finally found a companion. He just ignored all the other incubi, so everyone was worried about him. We were all so surprised because we had no idea Hyo-sama's child was such an adorable incubus."

He hunched his shoulders at being told he was adorable and had her blessing to be with Duga.

"Adorable..."

"You really are adorable, Shizuku-sama. I can't believe how adorable you are even when you frown like that."

"..."

He tried his best to look cool, so he was upset that he was still being called adorable.

Iruma left, leaving him even more depressed. When his father and brothers arrived, they sipped their tea, chuckling.

"You can't help it. You really are adorable, Shizuku."

"Especially since coming here. Now that the seal has been broken, your full charm as an incubus has really come out. But it suits you more to be called adorable rather than beautiful."

"But I wanted to look more like you and Dad," Shizuku said. If he wasn't an incubus then he never would have had to leave his world, and Duga never would have set his sights on him. But now Shizuku was in a world he didn't really understand. "Being an incubus is nothing but trouble."

"Maybe."

But only his father agreed. His brothers tilted their heads.

"I don't know. In one sense, incubi are the strongest creatures in this world. Even the Demon King is under Shizuku's spell."

"Yeah, I can't believe it. He's usually so indifferent."

"It's because he's in love with Shizuku and not just because he's an incubus."

His brothers nodded at their father's words.

"Yeah, because Shizuku is so cute."

"So cute even the Demon King is stuck on him. Even after we went to all that trouble to hide him."

"It's such a pain. He's so violent and possessive. He won't even let us hug our Shizuku."

"Even though he's so little and cuddly."

His brothers lamented and sighed, glancing at the guard. Shizuku widened his eyes and objected, "I-I'm

not that little, and I'm only a little lighter than normal. And I don't really know if I'm cuddly, but I'm a guy so I shouldn't be!"

"Unfortunately you're shorter than normal, and you probably won't grow very much anymore."

"And you're a *lot* lighter than normal."

"And you're the cuddliest of all. You're soft all over. Plus, you smell sweet like a flower."

Shizuku shook his head, his face turning red.

His father looked at him and chuckled. "If you guys keep saying that and the king finds out, we'll be in trouble. He's not very generous."

"Yeah, we know."

"He even posted a guard here. And he told his servants about Shizuku, warning them not to push any more incubi on him."

"R-Really?"

Shizuku didn't know Duga had told others about him.

"Yes. He said to treat you as his companion. Because of that, everyone has been treating me well, congratulating me on being the father of the future Demon Queen."

"Whaaat?" Shizuku held his head in his hands.

He really didn't want to believe all of that was true.

"A-Are you sure about that? Am I really going to become the queen?"

"It's already decided, and judging by how attached he is to you, I doubt there's anything you can do to get out of it."

"And if you tried to run away, he'd kill us without a doubt."

"Yep, we'd be dead meat."

Both his brothers nodded in agreement, making Shizuku tremble.

"Duga is so violent! He always says he's gonna kill everyone, and he's serious! It scares me that he's capable of it."

"The Demon King is a complex person. It's probably the first time he's ever been in love. That's why he wants to get rid of everyone who is important to you, but since we are so important to you, he knows he can't. Because he knows if he did it, you'd hate him."

"Then, are you guys okay? He won't kill you."

"Perhaps."

"Perhaps?!" They were that unsure?

The Demon King's power was absolute, and he had heard that he was way more powerful than any other demon; but it was painful that he had the right to decide everything.

It hadn't been very long since Shizuku had met him, but he still didn't feel like everything would be okay. He especially didn't feel good when he thought that the safety of his family depended on what kind of mood Duga was in.

"I guess I have to try not to make him mad. But Duga said it makes him want to kill you if I say I want to see you more."

"He's so mean."

"He doesn't want anyone to be closer to you than him. Even though it's natural since we're family. It's not

that he has some kind of ulterior motive."

"He's so powerful, he could have anyone. Why does he want Shizuku?"

"He just does. We just ran out of luck when the Demon King found him. Shizuku has always been unbelievably cute since he was born, right? As I held him, I thought he was so adorable that even the Demon King would want him. Thinking back on it, I was right. So that's why I wanted to bring him to the human world before the rumors of a newborn incubus got started."

"Yeah. Shizuku's really cute, even for an incubus. Didn't you say that there were a lot of people who thought he was so cute that they tried to steal him away? Even that honest, loyal butler forgot his duties."

"Oh, so that's why you had to put the seal on. I wondered why we had to take him away from this world when he was just a baby."

"There aren't many incubi, and they're precious. Many demons want them. I decided that instead of constantly trying to protect him here, that it would be safer in the human world."

"I think you did the right thing. Because of that Shizuku grew up well-adjusted and he was so loved. If he had grown up here, he would have been spoiled by everyone."

"Even though the Demon King was introduced to so many incubi, he ignored all of them. But he knew Shizuku was the one from the first time he saw him."

"Yeah, he's really crazy about him. Shizuku, all you have to do is smile at him and give him a little kiss, and he'd do anything for you," his brother teased.

Shizuku frowned. "But I don't really want anything. I'm not a girl, so I don't care about pretty jewels or clothes."

"Normally incubi would be pleased by those things. Their power has to do with beauty, so they love anything that will make them appear more beautiful."

"Hmph. I'm not anything like an incubus."

"You're right, you're not. It's not like I know a lot of them, but all the ones I do know are really flashy. I think they're pretty, but I'm not really interested."

"I think I know what you mean. I met this one named Yui before, and he was really flashy, inside and out. He was really annoying."

"You've met another incubus?"

"Once. When I first got here, I snuck out one day after you guys left. I think Yui is after Duga."

"Hmm?"

Shizuku was really unhappy. He had no interest in status or power. It made him very sad that he had a guard stationed by him at all times and he couldn't even walk around freely.

"I have no interest in that. It's just annoying!"

"That's why the Demon King likes you."

"Things just aren't working out."

"That's the way things are."

"If I just got *them* together, maybe things would work out. If I could have a normal life, I wouldn't mind living here. But I can't stand Yui...if he became queen, all he'd do is insult me."

He'd probably say things like, "Told you he'd get tired of you" or "I'm way prettier than you."

And for some reason he didn't like the idea of Duga having sex with Yui.

"I'd rather he did it with some incubus I didn't know," Shizuku muttered to himself, even though he should be talking to his family.

Their time together was over in a flash.

"Shizuku-sama, it's time."

"All right."

He could only see his family for one hour each day. And during that hour the guard would watch them and when time was up, he'd chase them off.

Usually he'd leave Shizuku alone and go stand guard outside the door, but this time was different.

"The king wants me to take you to him now."

"Okay."

It was better than being in the room all by himself. Usually he had to stay there until Duga came back, so Shizuku stood up, feeling a little excited.

He left the room, led by the guard.

Shizuku looked up at the huge guard and started talking to him. "Um, can you tell me your name?"

"..." Silence.

"Isn't it kind of inconvenient for me not to know your name if you're my guard?"

"..."

He wasn't answering. He didn't even look in Shizuku's direction, so he couldn't try to use his powers of persuasion on him.

"You're really stubborn."

If he couldn't go back home and had to live in this world, at least he wanted to have a friend.

He wanted to know about the man who guarded him, and trust him, but the guard only spoke when absolutely necessary. Shizuku had heard that he was extremely loyal to Duga, so he probably had received orders on what he could and couldn't say to him.

"Duga is so mean."

Shizuku wondered if Duga wanted to isolate him from everyone, and he thought if that was possible it was probably true. He always talked about "getting rid" of Shizuku's family, after all.

While Shizuku was feeling sorry for himself, he suddenly realized a golden-haired boy was coming towards him.

It was Yui. Instead of smiling at Shizuku, he smiled at the guard and put both his hands together in front of his face.

"Can I talk to him for just a little bit? We're both incubi so I want to talk to him. I think even the king would say it's okay."

"..."

The guard looked as if he was considering it.

His orders had been to protect Shizuku from other demons and not let them near him. Because all demons wanted him.

But another incubus? Another incubus wouldn't want him. Incubi were rivals, but they wouldn't try to carry another one off.

So that's why—after considering it for a while—the guard allowed Yui to speak to Shizuku. He most likely judged that Yui wouldn't be able to hurt Shizuku, but Shizuku had a feeling demons being weak against

incubi had something to do with it as well.

Even though his guard never talked or even looked at him, here he was letting Yui do whatever he wanted. And not only that, he was even being considerate, waiting a short distance away to give them privacy.

Shizuku raised his eyebrows and said, "What do you want?"

"Nothing in particular. Just wanted to tell you something." Yui was being careful of the guard and kept a smile on his face. He spoke quietly so the guard wouldn't hear him. "I'm a candidate to be the king's companion. I'm supposed to be the one by his side, not you."

"I think you've just convinced yourself of that."

Duga had told him he didn't remember Yui, and that he had been introduced to so many incubi he couldn't tell them apart.

"My guardian is one of the king's advisors. He's very powerful. He has a room in the palace, too. He'll get rid of you before the king's mating period begins."

"That would actually make me happy. I told you, Duga is forcing me to be with him. I'm not with him because I want to be."

"That kind of conceit pisses me off. Are you trying to say that's just how much the king loves you?"

"I'm just telling the truth."

"Give me a break!"

"What?" Shizuku was fed up with Yui's tantrums.

"Listen, it doesn't matter how much you complain to me. Duga's the one who never lets me go. If you want him to choose you, tell him yourself."

"I wouldn't dare say something like that to the king. I'm not rude, like you."

"Then shut up about it! Leave me alone! Stop taking it out on me just because Duga doesn't remember you."

"Doesn't remember me?" Yui raised an eyebrow suspiciously.

Shizuku shrugged.

"Duga said he's been introduced to so many incubi he can't remember everyone. He doesn't remember you at all."

"You're lying!"

"No, I'm not. I never lie. No matter how annoying I think you are, I wouldn't lie about that."

"..." Yui narrowed his eyes. He appeared to be so angry he couldn't speak.

Shizuku regretted saying something like that to someone so prideful, but it was too late; he couldn't take it back now.

"..."

Yui gave Shizuku a death stare, yet still kept the smile on his face, making him look terrifying.

If looks could kill, Shizuku would be dead by now. Actually, he would probably be tortured to death.

That's how terrifying Yui's eyes looked at that moment.

Finally, Shizuku's guard approached them. "Shizuku-sama, it's time to go. If we're late the king will get angry."

"Oh, okay. Let's go then."

Shizuku took the guard's arm, relieved that he

had been saved just in time. But instead the guard's face went ghostly pale and he pushed Shizuku's arm away.

"A-Are you trying to get me killed?"

"Huh?"

"If the king found out you touched me, he'd kill me. That's one of the things he warned me about."

"What?"

He had only touched his arm briefly. It wasn't like it was an intimate touch—he was just trying to get the guard to lead the way.

"You'd get killed over something like that?"

"Yes."

"Geez!" Shizuku moaned in disbelief. He thought he knew just how cruel Duga was, but apparently he had underestimated him.

"Shizuku." A voice called his name.

"Hmm? What's wrong, Duga?"

"You were running late so I came to get you." Even though he was expressionless, Shizuku could tell that he was in a bad mood. Duga turned around and looked at Yui. "Who is that? Why were you with him?"

"Hmm?"

He had seen them talking the other day. And according to Yui's story, he was a top candidate for Duga's companion.

His personality aside, his outward appearance was very beautiful, so Shizuku truly wondered if Duga didn't remember.

"He said he was a candidate to be your companion."

"Hmph."

"You don't remember him at all? You saw him the other day. Yui said that his guardian is one of your advisors."

"I don't remember his name or his face. I get introduced to so many incubi before the mating period that I can't remember even one of them."

"Not even one of them? Really?"

"Really."

"But he's so pretty..."

"For an incubus, I suppose. But his type annoys me."

"His type?"

"He thinks he can get anything from me just by flirting because I'm the Demon King. Some incubi are way too confident about their abilities. It's really annoying."

"But aren't you happy to have them come after you since they're so beautiful? Or maybe they're not your type. Duga, what *is* your type?"

"You."

"Huh?"

"You're my type. Pure and cute. I feel at ease when I'm with you. Most incubi are too greedy. It drives me crazy. But Hyo did a good job raising you. It pains me to admit it, but it's a good thing you grew up in the human world."

"Why does it pain you to admit it?"

"Because that meant I had to meet you so late. If you'd been raised here, I would have been able to watch over you since you were a baby."

"Hmmm..."

Something about that seemed kind of creepy.

He felt like if Duga had known him since he was a baby, he wouldn't have grown up normally at all. He probably would have taken him from his family and not allowed him to see them.

But what he was more scared about was if Duga raised him...how old would he have been when he first made a move on him? Probably much younger than seventeen. It made him tremble just thinking about it.

Thanks, Dad... Shizuku thought.

He was grateful for having been raised in the human world. Because his father had hidden him from Duga's prying eyes, he had been able to have a peaceful childhood. At least until now.

Duga smiled at Shizuku, who was furrowing his brow. "You're thinking you're glad I didn't know you when you were a baby."

"Huh? Ahh...um..."

He couldn't exactly admit it. He wasn't sure how to respond, so he remained silent.

Duga reached out and stroked his hair. "Shizuku..."

"..."

Even though he threatened his family and did whatever he liked to him, he always called his name so tenderly.

He had thought he was obsessed with his power and that he was a selfish, heartless man, but Duga's attitude sometimes made him think differently.

It was hard to keep hating him when he treated him so kindly.

If he was meaner to him, maybe he wouldn't feel so confused.

"Come with me. I'm going to introduce you to everyone," Duga said, and grabbed Shizuku's hand.

"Who's everyone?"

"All my advisors. They're all feudal lords, very powerful demons. Your father used to be one of them."

"Hmmm...where are they?"

"In the reception room. It's rather far away, but it will be easier on you if we walk, right?"

"Yeah."

Shizuku still wasn't used to teleportation. His body wasn't used to the strange twisting feeling that happened during the process. At any rate, he wanted to see more of the palace.

"Why does it have to be so big?"

"Isn't spacious and big better than small and cramped?"

"Well, is it really necessary to have the ceilings *that* high? It's not like there are any giants around. Wait a second, are there?"

"Yes, there are. Most of them are about five meters tall. But they live in a land far away, so they rarely come here."

"Huh, they really exist..." Shizuku was impressed.

While they walked hand in hand they came across many different demons. Some of them looked normal, but there were some that were unusual.

"That one looks like Medusa!" Except it wasn't a female, it was a male. He had a strong body and writhing

snakes for hair. Even if the man didn't pay much attention to Shizuku, the snakes seemed to be very curious about him. He was proud of himself that he didn't scream.

According to Duga, many myths and stories about demons in the human world stemmed from real encounters they had had with demons.

"I guess the human world and demon world really are connected. They look just like demons from stories I've heard."

"Powerful demons can go to the human world any time they like. Don't you think any human that came across them would remember them well? Unlike humans who all look the same, we can create quite the impact."

"It's not about impact...I think humans would be terrified of any demons they saw and would scream."

Right now Shizuku was having a good time strolling the palace. It was too suffocating to be cooped up in one room all the time.

When they finally reached the reception room, he was amazed at how large it was. Especially since there were only about ten of Duga's advisors inside.

"Duga-sama."

"Is this Shizuku-sama?"

"Yes," Duga nodded, and cheers of delight rose throughout the room.

Most of the advisors looked like normal humans, so Shizuku was a bit disappointed.

"How adorable!"

"Congratulations. Now you have nothing to worry about for mating season."

"He really is cute. Is it true that he's Hyo-sama's son?"

"Yes. Hyo has already returned."

"I saw him. He was very busy."

"Well, he's been gone for seventeen years. I'm sure he has a lot to do."

"I suppose you're right."

Shizuku knew that when his family wasn't meeting with him, they were hard at work. No matter how loyal their servants had been, their being gone for so long had created problems.

"I must congratulate Hyo-sama. We were all worried since there's only six months before mating season...I'm so relieved!"

"I'm so jealous of him. Not only does he have two strong sons, but his other son is an incubus who has garnered favor of the king!"

After that, Shizuku met them one by one. He nervously introduced himself. But things went so fast, he didn't remember many of their names or faces.

"I'm going to officially make him my companion before mating starts," Duga declared, and the whole room froze.

"Yes. I'll start the preparations immediately."

"When will the official ceremony be?"

"As soon as possible."

"Very well."

Question after question flew, and Duga fielded them all quickly.

Shizuku grew nervous when he heard the word "wedding" in association with his name. Maybe he

really was going to be made the queen?

Before he knew it Duga had scooped him up again, and they left the reception room. Shizuku's head was swimming.

"What did they mean by 'wedding'?"

"You have that word in the human world, right? It means the same thing."

"The same thing? The exact same thing?"

"Yes."

"But we're both guys!"

"I told you no one will care about that. And if it really bothers you, why don't you just turn into a woman? If you can't do it by yourself, I can use my powers to do it."

"A w-woman?"

"I told you already, incubi can transform into any gender they like. It's not that hard. Wanna try it?"

"N-No, I don't! I'm a guy! I don't want to be a girl!"

He couldn't even wrap his head around turning his body into a woman's.

He was already confused by the logic of this world, and felt like he was going crazy.

"I don't get this place. Even though it's the queen, it's okay to be a guy? And incubi can turn into women? And what about the mating season?"

He had heard it mentioned before, but since he assumed it didn't have anything to do with him he had ignored it.

"It means just what it sounds like. Once every hundred years, my mating season starts."

"Once every hundred years? Just how long do demons live for? And why do you need a mating season? We...do that every day." He lowered his voice. He was embarrassed to say it out loud.

Duga looked at him and chuckled. He explained, "The sex we have every day is the normal kind. I have control of my reasoning then. But during my mating period, for an entire week, I will have sex. Regardless of if it's day or night. What is in control of me then is instinct, not reason."

"Umm..."

That sounded terrifying.

He was exhausted just from having sex every night. He always passed out at the end.

"All week long? In other words, without stopping?"

"Yes, without stopping. Well, only stopping for sleep. But even that sleep is very brief."

"B-But wouldn't the other person die?"

Shizuku had heard of dying during sex before, but he didn't know exactly how it happened.

"Anyone except for an incubus. They're the only ones who can take the Demon King's mating season. Most demons would explode from receiving that much of my energy."

"E-Explode?!"

"It's like trying to pour too much liquid into a thin glass container. If you pour too much in, it can shatter. Same for strong demons. They're too small to be my container."

"Um...what if you just...dealt with it alone?"

"If I do that my power will spontaneously discharge and blow up half the world."

"W-What? Blow up half the world?"

"Maybe only a third if I'm lucky."

"Mating season sounds like a pain."

Compared to animals' mating seasons in the human world—they were peaceful!

"So...are you saying I'm going to be the one who has to be with you during this scary mating season?"

"Yes."

"N-No way! I don't wanna die!"

"I told you, you won't die. Incubi are fine. You're an incubus, so you won't die. I won't deny that it's rough, but at least you're grown up. If you were a little younger, it could be dangerous."

"You mean you'd make me do it even if I were younger?!"

"Well, of course. You're going to be my companion. There's no one else to do it. I wish I could have let you get a little older to relieve some of the burden, but there's only six months left. So I'll have to get you used to it by then and give you plenty of my energy."

"That doesn't make me happy. Why can't you just wait until I grow up?"

"I can't. Even though I knew you were a child when I met you, I couldn't not have had sex with you. I'm glad you're an incubus."

"W-What does that mean?"

"Even if you haven't realized it yet, incubi mature faster than others. They enjoy sex at a younger age."

"..."

From what age? Shizuku wondered, a cold sweat breaking out on his forehead.

Now he was sure that if Duga had met him at a younger age he would have had a problem.

He wanted to go home.

But of course he couldn't tell Duga that. If it was the human world, Duga would be in prison for his sexual crimes. It made him think that the laws back home were wonderful.

At least he could be happy that he had escaped Duga for this long.

It had been one month since Shizuku arrived in the demon world.

The sky never had a cloud in it, and it was blue, just like back home. The only thing different was that he never saw the sun.

He had never seen it rain. It was always clear and felt like spring.

The only place he could freely walk alone was in Duga's room and the adjacent garden, which was inaccessible from anywhere else.

He actually was starting to feel at home here. Back in the human world, there was always something that made him feel like a foreigner.

Maybe that's why his desire to go back there wasn't as strong anymore. Shizuku wondered if that was because he now understood that this was his world.

"But there are a lot of things that make me unhappy."

Not being able to walk around freely, for example. Being tied to Duga all the time. Only being able to see his family for one hour a day.

One day after Iruma brought in their tea, Shizuku sighed. His brother, Kiri, looked at him curiously.

"Don't you miss the human world? You want to go home?"

"Yeah, but I think it's just because that's what I was used to. But I never had any true friends there. Not any close ones."

"Now that you mention it, you never brought any friends home."

"Yeah. Because whenever I started to get close to someone, they'd act strange. They'd get possessive. I thought I'd never get treated normally."

"That's because you're an incubus. Even though you were sealed, there was something about you that couldn't be suppressed. Everyone wanted you and wanted to be with you."

"That's what it felt like. I just wanted to be friends, but they always wanted more. It was so hard to make friends."

"You can't help it. Everyone will want to be more than friends with you."

"I remember it was so hard not being able to use our magic when so many people were after you."

"Especially when Shizuku started middle school. Incubi start to appeal to others around twelve or thirteen, right?"

"If they live here. But Shizuku lived in the human world and was sealed, so I don't think that has anything to do with it. Maybe that was Shizuku's first...experience."

"I didn't notice."

"Umm..."

Actually, his first experience was when Duga had forced him after he came to this world, but of course he couldn't say that.

"Hmm? Did I imagine it? The middle school was farther to walk to than the high school, right? Lots of suspicious people were around him then. Wouldn't it make sense that it would have been then?"

"Maybe."

"We had such a good time in the human world."

"Yeah, I can't believe the king. Why'd he have to come and ruin it?"

"He probably wanted to leave the demon world when so many people were bothering him about incubi."

"What a pain."

"And because of that, Shizuku's locked up here."

"And we can't even touch him."

"It's all because of that selfish Demon King."

"We'd be able to save him if only he wasn't the Demon King."

Shizuku frowned at his family's discussion. Of course he had tons of complaints about Duga, but he didn't think he was that bad.

"Actually, Duga is pretty nice..."

"Shizuku?"



"He's selfish and possessive, but he's not really that bad."

"..."

"..."

"..."

His family was silent.

Finally, one of his brothers spoke. "Shizuku...do you love the king?"

"Love? N-No...at least...I'm not sure. It's just hard to hate him when he's so nice to me every day."

It was a habit of Duga's to call him cute or adorable. But Shizuku could tell he always meant it.

"Well, it's not like I don't understand...he *is* the Demon King, after all."

"He's like a different person in front of Shizuku. He's not cold at all."

"Yeah, now that I think about it, he does seem different."

"He looks at us with more malice than he used to. Usually he ignored us, but now it's like he has it in for us."

"I thought things might calm down after a while, but I guess not. He's scary as usual to us."

"I'm happy I'm back home, but I just wish we could spend more time with Shizuku."

"I want to hold him and kiss his cheek and sleep together!"

"I wish I could take a nap on your lap," Shizuku lamented.

"He'd kill us."

"Definitely."

They all sighed.

Shizuku met with his family at the same time every day. Then he would go to see Duga afterwards, and Yui would always be waiting for him.

"Hello. Can I talk to him for a bit?" Yui would ask the guard sweetly.

Apparently the guard had misunderstood and thought they were friends. So much time had passed and he still hadn't told Shizuku his name. But Duga had told him. The guard's name was Silam. He had seemingly been given orders to never make eye contact with Shizuku.

Since demons were weak against incubi, Silam had a soft spot for Yui.

Of course Shizuku and Yui weren't *actually* friends, and Silam never heard Yui insult him.

Shizuku couldn't bring himself to tell him to go away. Yui had thought Duga would tire of Shizuku, but since he hadn't he was really annoyed with him lately.

"Why are you still here? When are you going to leave?"

"Like I said, ask Duga. He won't let me leave."

"So you'll never leave? Why don't you just run away? My guardian is an influential advisor of the king's, why don't you ask him? I'm sure he'd help you."

"..."

Shizuku was suspicious of Yui's offer. Until now

he had just been mean to him. "Why would you say that?"

"I'm not saying it out of kindness. I'm just sick of you being in my way. So is my guardian. He wants me to be the king's companion, so I think he'd help you run away."

Shizuku was satisfied with this answer.

He was sure there was something more to it; but still he considered it.

"Run away..."

If he ran away from Duga, he could walk around freely again. And touch his family whenever he wanted.

It was an attractive offer, but he couldn't accept it so easily.

The Demon King was more powerful than anyone. No one could stand against him.

So how could anyone escape his power? No matter how careful their plan was, Shizuku was afraid that they'd get caught and brought back to the palace. And if that happened...

He couldn't imagine how angry Duga would be when he found out he was gone. He was almost too scared to even think about it.

But what really bothered him was that he couldn't trust Yui. Ever since they first met, he had been nothing but hostile to Shizuku. It was clear that his feelings had grown even harsher since he realized Duga wasn't getting tired of Shizuku as he had predicted.

"So, what do you think? If you want to run away, I'll tell my guardian."

"No, I don't think so. I don't think it will work.

Anyway, I can't trust you."

"Hmph, you're so snotty. I knew I hated you for a reason."

"..."

Even though he had figured that was the case, to hear Yui say bluntly that he hated him made Shizuku feel a little sad. No one had ever hated him before.

"Well, I don't really like you, either!" he retorted, and returned to Silam. He couldn't get the unpleasant feeling out of his chest.

It had been three days since Yui approached him with the plan.

Since then, he hadn't seen him at all. Perhaps he had actually given up since Shizuku had turned him down so definitively.

It was a normal day, except that Duga went out for some kind of "inspection." He said he would be back in two or three hours, but added it might take longer depending on how things went. Apparently he had wanted to take Shizuku with him, but for some reason had decided against it.

Since he wasn't allowed to walk freely within the palace, he stayed cooped up in the room, bored out of his mind.

He had asked Duga if he could meet with his family while he was gone, but Duga had refused.

"He's a meanie, as usual."

Everyone else in the demon world viewed Duga as a cruel and heartless Demon King, but to Shizuku he was just an overly jealous, narrow-minded Demon King. Even though he said he would grant any of Shizuku's wishes, he wouldn't allow him to live peacefully with his family. Instead he tried to lavish gifts on him.

New clothes and jewels soon filled up Duga's living room. Shizuku would tell him he didn't want them, but Duga made him wear them, saying they looked good on him. Whenever Yui saw him dressed like that, he glared at him even more.

As soon as Duga left, Shizuku took off all the jewelry and climbed into bed. Since he had nothing better to do, he thought he might as well go back to sleep. Before long he heard someone calling his name, and shaking his shoulder.

"Hmm?"

At first he thought it was Duga and he had returned. He sat up and rubbed his eyes, then exclaimed in surprise, "Kiri-chan?! Why are you here?"

They were in Duga's bedroom. He was only allowed to meet with his family in the living room at a specific time. They were definitely not allowed in the bedroom.

There was no way Duga had let him in. He didn't even have to ask that. Duga was so jealous he couldn't even stand it when Shizuku's family touched him.

"Shhh! We're running away, Shizuku."

"Running away?"

"The Demon King isn't in the palace right now, it's our only chance!"

"But..."

"Dad and Sou are coming with us. We're going to get away from the Demon King and go back to the human world."

"B-But..." Shizuku hesitated.

The Demon King's power was absolute; and he had heard even if all the demons fought against him they couldn't possibly win. If they angered the king, Duga would kill them in an instant.

And if they got caught...there was no doubt that he would spare Shizuku, and in exchange force sex on him.

But if Duga caught his family, there was equally no doubt in his mind that he'd kill them.

Plus, Shizuku didn't even know if he wanted to run away. There were some things he didn't like about living with Duga, but none so bad that he wanted to run away.

It had been easy to get used to their nightly activities, and he realized that something inside of him wanted it. The pleasure he got from Duga felt nice, and his body craved it.

He didn't really want to be apart from Duga. He wasn't exactly sure what he felt towards him, but he knew it wasn't hate.

"Kiri-chan, I..." He was about to say he didn't want to run away, but his brother interrupted him.

"We have to hurry or they'll find out. One of the king's advisors is helping us, so we have to escape while the king is still out. There's no time. Dad and Sou have already left."

“...”

So in other words, their escape plan had already started. Even if he refused to go, he knew Duga wouldn't forgive them.

He wondered if the advisor who was helping them was the one Yui mentioned. If that was true, he had a feeling even if they got caught, he wouldn't cover for them. It looked like he had no other choice but to run.

“Okay.”

“We don't want to make anyone suspicious of us, so we're going to walk out,” Kiri said, and put a white cloth over Shizuku. It went all the way down to his feet. “If you wear this cloth, no one will be able to see you. Follow me. Don't talk at all, okay?”

“Okay.”

They quietly left the room and closed the door. Shizuku didn't see Silam in his usual place. He wondered how Kiri had gotten rid of him. He followed closely behind his brother.

Kiri took him far away from Duga's room, and they came across many demons. Sometimes his brother would stop and chat with them, not looking like he was in a hurry at all.

For some reason, it seemed like it was true that no one saw Shizuku because of the cloth. They only saw Kiri. No one reacted to Shizuku, who stood behind him. It must have been some kind of invisibility cloak.

It took a long time for them to finally get out of the palace, but it was relatively easy to leave. It had seemed much more difficult to enter than to leave.

He was relieved when they ended up in the town

and people bustled around them. None of them seemed to notice Shizuku either, and kept bumping into him which made his progress difficult. But he knew if he took off the cloth, people would see him and Duga would find out that he ran away.

Finally they left the town, and ended up in a forest. After walking awhile, the hustle and bustle of the town faded and grew more distant.

He could hear the sounds of rustling leaves and birds chirping, but it was peaceful compared to the chaos of the town.

“No one's watching us now. We gotta hurry.”

“Okay.”

They began to walk faster at a slow jog. They walked in silence for about five or ten minutes when Kiri finally stopped.

“Where are we?”

“This is where we're meeting Dad and Sou. We still have some things we need to take care of, so I want you to wait here for us. Okay?”

“O-Okay.”

“I need a few strands of your hair,” Kiri said, taking out a knife. “I'm going to make a bunch of dummies that look like you. It'll confuse anyone who's looking for you. I'll scatter them all around, so I'll be back after that. It might take some time, but do not move, whatever you do. Got it?”

“Got it.”

“If you keep the cloth on, no demon or beast will find you.”

“Beast?” Shizuku asked warily.

Kiri smiled. "Beasts who eat demons. They usually don't come into this part of the woods. We're still near the town. As long as you keep the cloth on, you'll be fine. They won't find you."

"..."

Shizuku imagined bears or wolves. Those were the only scary beasts that lived in the forest that he could think of. He was definitely scared, but he knew the cloth possessed a special power. If Kiri said he'd be fine, then he'd be fine. "All right." He nodded and looked up at Kiri. "Um, be careful, okay?"

"I'll be fine. You hang in there, okay?"

"Yeah..."

He was afraid to be by himself in a place like this. He wanted to be with his brother, but he knew that wasn't possible.

"Oh, and no matter what happens, whatever you do—don't say the Demon King's name."

"Why not?"

"Since the king has allowed you to call him by his true name, the bond between you two is strong. So if you call out his name, he'll immediately know where you are. It's a power greater than that of the cloak."

"O-Okay."

If he called Duga's name their escape plan would be ruined, and his father and brothers would be killed. Shizuku promised to be very careful.

"I'm leaving now. Don't move."

"I'm fine. I'll be waiting."

Shizuku nodded seriously, and watched as Kiri turned on his heel.

After Kiri walked away and Shizuku couldn't see him, he transformed back into himself.

A golden-haired incubus named Yui.

"Actually, this is near the beasts' territory. I wish I could have taken you deeper into the forest, but that would have been putting myself in danger, too. The beasts have amazing senses of smell so they would have come immediately. Because of the smell of that cloth, they'll come and rip you apart sooner or later," Yui murmured, chuckling.

He had taken a risk by transforming, but if his plan worked, the rewards would be worth it. Shizuku would be taken care of, and he was sure the beasts would do a capable job of it.

"The beasts are greedy, so they'll eat even your bones. Serves you right."

Yui was full of confidence. He had devised this plan from when Shizuku had first shown up in the demon world.

All he cared about was that Shizuku didn't go back to the Demon King. And even if he did, he'd probably kill him.

That's why he had to make sure there was no trace of Shizuku left. He knew that the Demon King would search anywhere for him.

"The beasts will take care of you, so now I just have to stall until then. I gotta make sure they don't suspect us. But my transformation was perfect. With my guardian helping me, it was easy. Everyone thought I was his brother."

Now all he had to do was give Shizuku's hair

to his guardian, who was waiting close by so he could make the dummies. Then Yui would return to the palace with an innocent look on his face.

As soon as Duga saw Shizuku's cruel remains, he would be depressed. And then Yui would comfort him and charm him.

Yui happily imagined his future as the new Demon Queen.

After Kiri left him, Shizuku looked at his surroundings.

He was definitely in the middle of a forest. But the trees nearby were so large Shizuku probably couldn't wrap both arms around them.

He figured they were probably a landmark so his brothers could find him, so he made sure the cloth was on securely. "Yeah, it's fine."

Shizuku nodded and sat down at the base of the giant tree. Even though he knew nothing could see him, he crouched down and made himself as small as possible.

He waited by himself, feeling uneasy. He felt like this was taking forever. He couldn't help but worry about his family.

"..."

He put his chin on top of his knees and sighed. *Why did things have to end up this way?* he wondered, as he stared into space at nothing in particular.

Ever since the day Duga had kidnapped him, his life had changed. And now he was defying him – a man not even his father and brothers could defeat.

It wasn't that he wanted to run away; but of course now it was too late.

Perhaps it was because he had spent too much time with Duga that he felt so lonely being alone now.

When he was with Duga, he felt protected. Even if he came across a scary-looking demon, he knew as long as Duga was with him that he'd be okay.

He opened his mouth to call out Duga's name, then realized what he was doing and clamped a hand over it.

Maybe it was because he had been completely dependent on Duga since coming to the demon world that he felt like he needed him even after running away.

He didn't know how he felt.

Or how Duga truly felt.

Duga said he was cute and adorable and that he wanted him to be his companion, but he had never told him that he loved him.

So no matter how kind Duga was to him, or how attached he seemed, he still didn't really know how he felt.

He said that since incubi matured early, there were none who hadn't been touched. Except for Shizuku, who had still been a virgin. Maybe that's the only reason why Duga had chosen him?

Because no matter how many times Duga told him he was cute, he knew he wasn't as beautiful as Yui.

He didn't dislike his reddish-brown hair, but he

did look plain compared to other incubi.

All Shizuku could think about while he waited for his brother to return was Duga.

He didn't know how much time had passed, but at some point he heard the sound of tall grasses being parted.

"..."

He twitched. Anxiety ran through his body.

He strained his ears and heard the sound coming closer. He saw something in front of him.

"...?!"

It was a palace guard. He had a sword and was looking around himself nervously. He was searching through the grass, probably for Shizuku. He was too on edge to be just on a regular patrol.

And just as Kiri had said, he couldn't see Shizuku at all, even though he had walked right in front of him.

Shizuku put a hand on his chest, relieved. He checked over and over again to make sure the cloth was still secure. As soon as he was satisfied, he hunched over again and held his breath.

Now that he knew Duga was searching for him, he started to feel a strange sense of happiness. He wanted to leave here and go to Duga's side. But if he did, their escape plan would be ruined and his family would be killed.

He wanted to go back, but he couldn't.

He was absorbed in his own thoughts, when suddenly he sensed a presence and glanced up.

"..."

It was completely silent.

He didn't hear the sound of grass parting or footsteps on the earth. By the time he realized it was near, it was very close, about five meters away.

With just one glance, he knew it was a beast. It was a fearsome creature and resembled a wolf, but was much larger. It was maybe the size of a bear, and had a mouth on its stomach.

Chills went through Shizuku's body, and he turned pale.

Even though he knew he was protected by the cloth, he was still frightened.

The beast pushed its nose to the ground, sniffing. Soon more beasts came.

"..."

One, two, three beasts.

Shizuku began to get more nervous.

He wondered if he was really okay. Maybe they had gathered because they smelled him?

Just then, the tree he was leaning against made a loud creaking sound, and the branches began to form a set of stairs.

It was so sudden and abrupt, Shizuku turned towards the tree and said, "What? You want me to climb up and escape?"

No one answered him, but he had a feeling it was telling him that. No matter how much he was told that the beasts couldn't see him, he felt the situation was too

dangerous. He was scared. He gave in to the urge of wanting to get out of their reach and started climbing the stairs.

He still wore the cloth on his head, but he had to be very careful or he would fall down the precarious stairs.

Finally, Shizuku reached a height that was out of reach of the beasts. After completing its duty, the stairs disappeared and changed back into the giant tree.

Shizuku stared down at the beasts and saw them howling below. They were persistently sniffing around the place where he had been, and finally looked up towards Shizuku and roared.

The beasts tried to jump up the tree. They definitely knew their prey—Shizuku—was up there.

Doubt began to grow in Shizuku's chest.

"But I was wearing the cloth, so why?"

Kiri had said as long as he wore the cloth the beasts couldn't find him. But they had.

Why would Kiri purposefully lead him into a dangerous situation like this?

From the fear of watching the beasts try to climb the tree, Shizuku grasped the necklace that dangled on his chest, the one that belonged to his mother.

"Kiri-chan...please come get me." As soon as he whispered this, he saw Kiri appear.

"Shizuku! Where are you?"

"Kiri-chan!!" Shizuku took off the cloth and started crying.

"Shizuku, why are you here?"

"What?" It was Kiri who had brought him here, so

Shizuku didn't understand his question. He tried to find a way down to his brother.

"No, wait there! It's too dangerous to come down!"

"But..."

The beasts were gathering around Kiri. He was their target now, and they raced towards him.

"Kiri-chan! Kiri-chan!!"

Kiri produced a sword and stabbed one of the beasts, but there were too many of them. As soon as he stabbed one, another came running towards him.

"Thanks for leading me here."

"Duga!!"

"K-King?"

As soon as Duga showed up before them, he annihilated all the beasts. Even though Kiri had fought against them so hard, Duga defeated every single one of them in a flash.

"But I thought magic didn't work against beasts?"

Kiri whispered, astounded.

Duga looked at him coldly.

"Don't compare me to you. So...Shizuku called for you, not me?"

"What?"

Duga's voice sounded sad, not like his usual conceited voice.

"It really pisses me off that he chose you instead of me," Duga whispered, grabbing Kiri by the neck.

"Urgh!"

"Should I strangle you to death? That would make me feel better. As long as you're around, Shizuku will be

in trouble. He'll never completely rely on me as long as you exist."

"A-Aagh..." Kiri choked, his face tightening.

"..."

Shizuku was so shocked at how angry Duga was he couldn't move.

But Kiri was in trouble. He couldn't just stand there.

Kiri's hands broke out in sweat and his arms dangled limply. His body was held aloft in the air by Duga.

At this rate, he really would kill him.

"Stop it!" Shizuku screamed, and started to get down from the tree. But he was in such a hurry he forgot that the stairs were no longer there. "Aghhh!" He closed his eyes as he thought he was going to fall, to brace himself for the pain.

But instead of hitting the ground, nothing happened. He opened his eyes.

"..."

Duga was holding him in his arms.

Kiri was on the ground, coughing.

"Ahhh..."

Shizuku was so scared he couldn't look at Duga.

"You're so annoying," Duga whispered, and ripped the cloth from Shizuku's hands. Then he lit it on fire and it burnt away without leaving a trace. "Why did you run away?"

"..."

"Do you hate being with me so much?"

"I, I..."



He was so scared he couldn't speak.

"Answer me. If you don't, I'll kill him."

"N-No, don't!"

"Then answer me! Don't you want to be with me?"

Shizuku shook his head. "That's not it. I don't have a lot of freedom with you and that bothers me, but I don't hate being with you."

"Then why did you run away?"

"Because Kiri-chan said he came to rescue me. And if the plan failed then you would kill Dad and everyone. So..."

"You had no choice but to run away."

"Pretty much... I didn't have time to think about it. Kiri-chan showed up and told me to run away."

"That wasn't your brother."

"What?"

"The one who told you to run away wasn't your brother. It was an incubus who had transformed. Some powerful demon must have used a spell on him to make him seem exactly like your brother."

"Wh-What? It was a fake? I was sure it was Kiri-chan, though!"

Shizuku was really confused.

"No. Your brothers and father accompanied me on my inspection because we went to look at your father's land. The butler had protected the castle, but the land was a mess because of the absence of the feudal lord."

"But he came back here. Kiri-chan told me to wait here."

"That's because you called his name. That stone

still has some power left in it."

"But...are you sure?"

"Why would I lie? I wanted to keep an eye on your family so I went along. I never took my eyes off them, so I know it wasn't Kiri who took you away. And they were the only ones who knew where I was going, so they couldn't have been part of the plan. Someone was trying to set a trap."

Finally, Shizuku understood the situation. "I can't believe it..." The person had seemed exactly like Kiri.

"If a high-ranking demon put a spell on him, even his mannerisms and voice would be the same. He'd be Kiri, inside and out."

"So it really wasn't Kiri-chan."

"If it had been, do you really think he would have left you in such a place? This is close to the beasts' territory. It's too dangerous for a powerless incubus."

"He said they never came to this part of the forest. And if I wore the cloth then they wouldn't find me."

"He brought you here exactly so they *would* find you. This cloth will make you invisible, but it won't hide your scent. And I'm sure you smell delicious to the beasts. And whoever was behind this made a bunch of dummies that looked like you. To stall me, so I'd be chasing them while you got eaten to death."

"That's terrible!"

"I told you to be careful of other incubi. They'll trap you and try to kill you."

No one had ever tried to kill him before, so it was hard for Shizuku to grasp.

"Do you think it could be Yui?"

He was the only incubus who had a grudge against Shizuku. He had even said his guardian would try to help him escape.

"I don't know his name. I think I've seen him before..."

"You have a terrible memory. It's the golden-haired, blue-eyed incubus."

"I don't remember the color of his eyes, but his hair was gold. Yeah, I remember him. The one I saw with you."

"It was Yui, then. He's the only incubus I've ever talked to."

He couldn't believe Yui had tried to kill him.

"Did you kill Yui and his guardian who helped him?"

"No, I haven't."

"I see."

Shizuku breathed a sigh of relief. No matter how much he didn't like Yui, he didn't want him to be killed. But his relief didn't last for long.

"I wouldn't do something as kind as killing them. They kidnapped you and left you out here to be eaten by beasts. They'll die in a hundred years anyway. I'm sure they're regretting it right now."

"Huh?"

A fearsome light shone in Duga's eyes.

If he didn't kill them, then what did he do?

"So what...?"

He was going to ask if he was torturing them, but Duga interrupted, staring at Kiri while he spoke. "If only it really was you that had made that plan, I could have

gotten rid of you for good."

"Duga!! You're like that, and that's why I believed it was Kiri-chan! Because you keep threatening them!"

"So what?"

"Duga!"

"Why can't you understand? Why would I want anyone to take you away from me? If I get rid of them they won't cause me trouble in the future."

"Well, that might be true, but I don't want you to do that. Stop saying something like that so easily. I don't care if you're the Demon King, it's wrong!"

"You only think that because you were raised as a human. I'm the Demon King, so I'll do as I please."

Shizuku groaned. "Will you stop saying that?"

"I was so shocked when I found out you ran away."

"I'm sorry..."

Duga's eyes looked sad, and all Shizuku could do was apologize.

"I know I made you stay by my side, but I thought eventually you'd come to love me."

"But you only chose me because I'm an incubus and...a virgin, right? Otherwise you wouldn't have anyone for the mating period."

"Don't be ridiculous! Of course I don't like it when they've been touched, but I don't *have* to have a virgin. It just happened to be the case this time. I would have taken you even if you weren't a virgin."

"Um..."

He wondered if that meant he would have killed anyone else who got there first. How terrible!

"I didn't choose you for my companion because you were a virgin or because you were an incubus. I knew I wanted you the minute I saw you."

"..."

Shizuku's heart pounded as Duga stared at him.

Shizuku had been captivated by Duga from the beginning, too. But he just didn't have the confidence to believe that Duga really wanted him. No matter how many times he told him he was cute or how many times they had sex, he just couldn't find the confidence in himself.

He was too insecure to believe it. He couldn't stop worrying that eventually he'd move on to another incubus.

"Duga...you've said I'm cute and that you wanted me to be yours, but you never told me you loved me."

"Telling you all that means that I love you."

Shizuku felt happy finally hearing it out loud.

"B-But how was I supposed to know that? I'm an idiot, so I need you to be blunt with me!"

"Okay...well, I'll be sure to say it from now on. I love you, Shizuku. So please be my companion."

"..."

He stared at Duga's beautiful face, full of sincerity. He didn't know what to say. Plus, he was the Demon King. He had so much to think about.

"What do you feel about me, Shizuku? Do you love me? Do you want to be my companion?"

Even though Duga was a selfish, stuck-up Demon King, Shizuku couldn't refuse him.

"I...I do love you."

"You love me?"

"W-Well, I'm not exactly sure, but I think so."

"You think so?" Duga raised an eyebrow.

"W-Well, I don't really understand much about love! I do really like you, and when I'm with you I feel good. A-And I like, y-you know, doing it...with you...so doesn't that mean I love you?"

"Yes, I think so, too."

"So...I guess I do."

Shizuku wasn't positive. He had never fallen in love before.

He had always imagined confessing his love to a pretty girl, not another guy, and certainly not a Demon King.

But ever since he met Duga, Shizuku felt like he was drawn in. He remembered the feeling when he looked into Duga's bluish-black eyes for the first time.

Maybe it was love at first sight?

"I...guess I do."

Duga asked Shizuku, who was deep in thought, "What if there was someone else?"

"What?"

"What if someone else was always with you and had sex with you? Would you care?"

"..."

Shizuku opened his eyes wide. Then he imagined the guard he had seen earlier and got goosebumps.

"O-Of course I'd care! I don't want to do it with anyone else! Ew!"

"Then that means you really do love me. That makes me happy. Even just imagining it now pisses me off."

"You have such a bad temper."

"I do. So please don't do anything to make me mad. I feel like killing anyone you even smile at."

"W-Well, don't do that..." It was tough enough as it was to reassure Duga every time he greeted someone that he wasn't in love with them. It was too much to forbid him to even smile at someone!

"But Iruma and Silam are okay, right?"

"I guess they're all right. Iruma has a fiancé and Silam is extremely loyal to me."

"Good!"

At the very least, he could interact with those two.

"The only reason I'm compromising is because it's you. I treat you differently than everyone else. I just want you to be happy because I love you."

"Yeah..." Shizuku knew that.

Even though he knew that Duga was very powerful and didn't have to listen to anyone, every once in a while he'd indulge Shizuku. He treated him so kindly even though it had only been a short while. And he had saved him when he was in danger.

Shizuku stared at Duga's eyes.

"A-Are you sure you won't throw me away?"

"What?" Duga raised his eyebrow at the sudden question.

"W-What if another cute incubus comes along and he's a virgin too? Will you send me away?"

"Don't be ridiculous. No one could be cuter than you. No one else has ever made me feel like this before. I wanted you the moment I saw you, remember? Everyone

else but you just looks the same to me."

"Even someone pretty like Yui?"

"You keep saying he's beautiful, but he doesn't look that way to me. I can see the greed and hostility in him and it makes him ugly."

"Really..." He was impressed that Duga hadn't been fooled by him.

"I swear, I'll only love you. If I go back on my word, I'll kill myself."

"... Duga?"

"If I ever love anyone else, the Demon King will be no more."

"..."

It was a frightening proclamation, but he knew he meant it. He felt ashamed at having doubted Duga's feelings for so long. It finally felt like a burden had been lifted from him, and he sighed.

"I love you," he whispered softly, and wrapped his arms around Duga's neck.

"Heh heh...it's rare for you to hug me."

Shizuku could tell this pleased Duga. It was proof of how much they loved each other.

"Weren't you scared, almost being attacked by those beasts? You should take a bath to relax."

"..."

Shizuku knew that meant Duga wanted to take a bath with him, and naturally that would lead to sex. He blushed and nodded. He didn't mind the sex. He was embarrassed to admit it, but there was nothing that felt better than the pleasure Duga gave him.

"I'm going to teleport," Duga said, without

waiting for Shizuku to protest. Suddenly he felt that familiar twisting feeling.

"U-Ugh..." Shizuku moaned, but it was already over. "You know I hate that!"

"But it's so much faster."

"Yeah, I guess..."

When he thought of how long it had taken him to get to the forest from Duga's room, he couldn't argue. Duga set him down and started undressing him.

"Hmm? We're already in the bathroom."

He thought they had returned to the bedroom, but they were in the large bathroom that had a spacious dressing room and comfy sofa.

"No sense in taking detours."

"I guess you're right."

Duga laughed as he undressed Shizuku.

"You know, I'd only give *you* this type of service."

"But you always act like you have so much fun doing it."

"Because it *is* fun."

It was true—Duga always had a wonderful time undressing Shizuku. Sometimes he would be so impatient he'd caress any exposed skin he saw.

Right now he was kissing his naked chest, and his hands were slipping down to his pants.

"Mmm..." Shizuku moaned as he felt Duga's hands on his ass.

"I'll get you some black clothes next. It'll make your beautiful white skin stand out...or maybe dark blue or red..."

"I have too many clothes already."

"They're all white. I'll get you some other colors. It'll make it more fun to undress you."

"..."

Shizuku didn't know if he could keep up. It was true that he'd gotten used to sex with Duga, but sometimes he still felt strange doing it.

Finally Duga finished undressing him, and carried him into the next room which housed a large bathtub. It was beautiful and Shizuku was really fond of it. It was a huge, luxurious bathtub like you'd see in a hotel. Flower petals floated in the water. The fragrant odor stimulated his senses.

They faced each other in the bathtub, Shizuku on Duga's lap. Unable to control his steadily rising body temperature any longer, he returned Duga's kiss.

They kissed over and over again and touched each other's chests. Shizuku's nipples stood erect from the stimulation.

Duga had taught him that his entire body was an erogenous zone. Every time Duga's fingers touched him, pleasure raced through him.

Duga reached down and caressed his asshole and stuck one finger in. Shizuku took it happily. "Mmm."

He didn't resist one bit. He knew how much pleasure it gave him to have Duga's fingers inside of him now.

Even when he put two fingers in, all he did was moan with pleasure. Though Duga hadn't even touched Shizuku's penis yet, it was already completely hard.

As Duga thrust his fingers in more deeply and

caressed his inner walls, Shizuku's hips pressed up against Duga's cock.

He wanted to come. He wanted Duga inside of him. Incubi's bodies were weak against pleasure.

"D-Duga..." He called his name, unable to take it anymore.

"What's wrong?"

"P-Please...hurry," Shizuku repeated over and over again.

He wanted to come so badly he couldn't stand it.

"Do you want me?"

"Yes..." Shizuku breathed, and Duga kissed him.

After kissing for a while, making Shizuku writhe even more, Duga licked his earlobe and said, "Tell me you love me."

"I love...you," Shizuku panted.

"Are you sure?"

"Y-Yes..." In the heat of the moment, he could be completely honest. He didn't try to think.

Duga nodded, satisfied at his answer, and then smiled at him. "Next time I'll make you say it when you're not in ecstasy," he said, nibbling at Shizuku's neck.

The sensation of Duga's teeth sinking into his neck made his whole body stiffen, but then Duga licked it until no pain remained.

"Mm-mm..."

Shizuku moaned. "I-I love you...please hurry!" he yelled, and clung onto Duga.

Duga took out his finger and shoved his whole cock into him at once.



"Aaaahhh!"

The moment Duga entered him, Shizuku screamed and came.

"Damn, you're such an adorable incubus."

Duga waited to start moving his hips until Shizuku relaxed.

"W-Wait," Shizuku said, but then changed his mind.

"N-No, more, more!"

His moans of ecstasy reverberated through the bathroom.

Falling In Love With A Demon King?!

Lately Duga always told him he loved him, maybe to get Shizuku to say it back to him.

And of course he still said Shizuku was cute as he always did.

It made him so embarrassed when Duga stared at him and said it in such a tender voice. But deep down he loved it. Of course he could never tell him that, but it did make him happy.

It felt so good to be wrapped up in his strong arms. After almost being attacked by beasts, Shizuku needed to feel like he was protected.

But sometimes it went over the top.

Shizuku was still bound by human laws of common sense, so he felt uncomfortable when Duga would hold him or whisper sweet nothings to him in front of others.

But Duga didn't care one bit and would do it no matter the time or the place, making Shizuku wince. Even now he was having trouble with him.

He was in Duga's office—his place of work. Duga's many advisors came and went, and the whole time Shizuku was sitting on Duga's lap.

Even though everyone knew Shizuku was Duga's

future companion, he wondered what they thought of him being on his lap during work.

He was relieved that his family wasn't there, but at the same time he felt lonely.

Suddenly Duga tickled Shizuku under his chin with his free hand, eliciting a funny noise out of him, "*Funya!*"

He hurried to clap a hand over his mouth, and blushed a deep red as he saw all the advisors staring at him.

"Stop doing weird things to me!" he complained to Duga.

But of course Duga was oblivious as always.

"What weird things?"

"Like tickling my chin!"

"You looked so bored, though. I couldn't help it."

"That's not an excuse."

"Every time I look at you I want to touch you. I can't help it."

"Yes, you can!" He glared at him, making Duga chuckle.

"Stop looking at me with such a cute face. It makes me want to have sex with you right now."

"What?" he started to say, but Duga kissed him on the lips. Right in front of all the advisors. And it wasn't just a closed-mouth kiss. There was tongue involved!

"Mmmph!"

Shizuku pushed against Duga's chest, but he didn't budge. Before he knew it, he was clinging onto Duga and kissing him back.

"Ahhh..." he moaned.

He knew his lust was taking over.

The advisors were all embarrassed to see Shizuku like this on Duga's lap.

Shizuku was having sex with Duga every day and was thoroughly used to it. His whole body was filled with energy and it sparkled. He was more alluring than ever.

Not only that, but a sweet fragrance emanated from his body, making everyone around him want to come nearer.

Not even the advisors were immune to Shizuku's appeal. If he wasn't the king's future companion, there would be an intense fight over him. Everyone secretly wanted him.

Shizuku was so embarrassed at being caught like this in front of the advisors, he wanted to cry. "I-I wanna go back to the room!"

"No."

"Why not? Just stay here and keep working. I'll go back with Silam."

"If you're going back, I'm coming too."

"You still have work to do. Plus, I want to be alone."

"No."

"Will you stop it?"

Even though he said he would do whatever Shizuku wanted, he was as stubborn as ever.

Shizuku puffed out his cheeks angrily, making a gentle expression cross Duga's face. "You never want to be around me for long."

"What?"

Duga said it with such sad eyes, it bewildered Shizuku. If only he were always stubborn and selfish, it would be much easier for Shizuku to resist him.

"Do you hate me?"

"Of course not!"

"So then you love me?"

"Um..." Shizuku turned away. He hated having to answer like this.

Duga laughed. "I'll keep asking you until you admit it. No, even after you admit it I'll keep asking. You love it when I say I love you, don't you?"

"..." He couldn't deny it.

But this was the Demon King's office, and there were many advisors around. He couldn't just say whatever he wanted here.

If they were alone...it might be okay. He'd still be embarrassed, but at least it wouldn't be in front of anyone else.

Duga suddenly stood, surprising Shizuku.

"W-What?"

"I'm going back to the room."

"But you have work to do."

"Taking a break."

"But..."

He knew Duga still had important work to take care of. He could tell by the way the advisors clutched their papers.

Shizuku looked at them, hoping they'd save him; but instead they averted their eyes, blushing.

To them, it just seemed like they were having a lovers' quarrel. It probably looked ridiculous. But

Shizuku knew that he never tried to get off Duga's lap, either.

The advisors didn't complain about the king leaving early and watched them leave the office.

Duga and Shizuku headed straight for the bedroom. The reason Duga didn't teleport even though he was in a hurry was because Shizuku didn't like to.

Duga carried him in his arms and when they were back in the room, set him down on the bed.

Duga covered him with kisses, stirring up Shizuku's lust once more.

"Mmmm..."

They were in bed together with no one else around, so Shizuku kissed him back passionately.

They kissed for quite some time, and as Duga undressed him, Shizuku asked, "Are we going to do it?"

"Of course. That's why we came back here. I could have done it in front of them, but you wouldn't like that, right?"

"O-Of course not!"

"You're so shy."

"Isn't that normal? I might be shy, but don't demons feel any sense of embarrassment?" Shizuku complained.

Duga laughed. "Not really. Especially not incubi. They love having sex in front of other people. They love turning other people on like that."

"Eww! I'd never do that!" He was so different from other incubi that he wondered again if he truly was one.

But since he felt intense lust just from one kiss, he probably was. He was also extremely weak against pleasure.

"Why am I so different from other incubi? I mean, I'm kind of glad I'm not like them, but I feel like I wouldn't get along with any of them. Like with Yui. By the way, what happened with him?"

"He's probably regretting trying to hurt you right now. He's also paying for trying to lay a hand on the Demon King."

"Hmm...really."

Shizuku had thought Duga had forgiven Yui, but apparently he was being punished. Of course, since he had tried to kill him, he did want him to receive punishment, but he didn't want it to be too harsh. Just enough to make him feel bad for what he did.

But Shizuku had forgotten that only incubi could hurt other incubi. Right now other incubi were persecuting Yui for his actions. They held quite a grudge against him.

Duga had handed Yui over to the other incubi. He had cast a spell on him to make him unable to die, and told the incubi to do whatever they wished to him.

Right now in a dim jail cell, Yui was wishing he was dead and begging to die.

If Shizuku found out, Duga was sure he'd ask him to just forgive him. But no one had told Shizuku about what was being done to Yui.

When Shizuku's family found out what Yui had tried to do to him, they thought the punishment was fitting. And no other demon would dare risk the wrath of

Duga in order to tell Shizuku.

Even though Shizuku didn't know about it, he was extremely safe right now because of it. No one would dare try to kidnap him or harm him again after seeing what Duga was doing to Yui.

"Not all incubi are like Yui, right? I wish I could meet more of them...but I'm a little scared."

"There's no reason for you to meet any incubi."

"I know, but I'm so curious about them."

"Just don't worry about it."

"It's not that simple. I don't know much about this world, and you forbid me from speaking to almost everyone. If I have to stay here forever, I feel like I'll start to get restless if I can't talk to anyone."

"You have me."

"Duga, that's not normal. I just want to have a friend I can drink tea with or something."

"Any demon who is near you will want you. Even if they don't act like it, deep down, they do."

"Then I wish there was someone who doesn't want me."

"That would be an incubus, but you won't get along with them. Even if they don't want you, they'll be jealous that you're going to be my companion. Since all incubi feel they're rivals, there aren't many who are friends with each other."

Shizuku sighed, disappointed.

"It's hard being an incubus," he murmured, making Duga laugh.

"You're about the only one who would say that. Most incubi are thrilled to be themselves."

"I hate it. I wish I was a normal demon like my brothers. They're really strong, right? If I would have been born a normal demon, I would be strong like them and have more freedom. Well, then I guess I never would have lived in the human world..."

It was because Shizuku had been born an incubus that their family's fate had changed. Since his family loved him, they hadn't cared. They said they had enjoyed living in the human world.

"I'm sure you would have been adorable if you'd been born a normal demon, too...but then you wouldn't have been able to take me during mating season. I'm glad you were born as an incubus."

"..."

Those scary words again—mating season. It still made him tremble.

But even so, he didn't want Duga to choose anyone else. It made him crazy to think of Duga having sex with someone other than him.

Perhaps that was written all over his face, because Duga smiled at him gently.

"You're adorable."

"Mm."

"I love you, Shizuku," he murmured in a tender voice, making Shizuku blush. It wasn't just because Duga kissed him.

Shizuku didn't answer him, but instead hugged him tightly.

Duga rubbed Shizuku's nipples with his fingers, making him tremble.

The stimulation from his nipples made his penis

erect. "Mmm," he moaned, feeling like he would melt.

Duga kissed him over and over again, sending shock waves through his body.

"I love you."

"..."

Shizuku didn't know what to do, hearing the sincerity in Duga's voice. He knew it was a different kind of love than he had for his family.

Having sex with Duga felt so good. But what felt even better was the way Duga stroked his hair and caressed him afterwards.

Shizuku loved falling asleep to that feeling. He knew it was just a matter of time before he could answer Duga freely and honestly about his own feelings.

He wished he could right now, but he was stubborn. Just a little while longer...

Even though he didn't realize that just thinking about it meant he was admitting to himself that he loved Duga—Shizuku smiled.

He responded to Duga's caresses.

He felt so good, and happy to be intoxicated with pleasure from Duga's loving words.

Afterword

Hello! Thanks so much for picking up a copy of *Wagamama Goman Maou-sama!? (The Selfish Demon King)*. That's kind of a long title, right? But it was the first one I could think of! ^ _ ^

I really wanted to make sure that the Demon King had horns. Since I was writing a story about demons, there had to be horns, right? But wouldn't they kind of get in the way of daily activities? Especially if you had two big, sharp ones on top of your head! Seems dangerous during sex, too...but I liked the idea so much I couldn't give it up, LOL. Of course Duga would never use them on Shizuku, but I could totally see Shizuku doing something like that and crying, "I'm sorry!" So it's a good thing Shizuku doesn't have horns, too! It makes everyone else safer, LOL.

I want to thank Naduki Koujima so much for the illustrations! Every time I saw a rough draft I screamed with delight! Shizuku is so, so, *so* cute! I love him as an *uke* so much I can't stand it! I hope he comes into his own soon. And I love all of Duga's conceited expressions, LOL. He looks so cool with his black clothes and horns!

Changing subjects, I have three cats now, and they love sleeping with me!

It seems like they love humans more than cats. It's

not that they don't get along—they play together a lot.

Right now two of them sleep in my room, and when I'm working I can hear them breathing in their sleep! One sleeps at the head of the bed and one sleeps at the foot of the bed, so there's no space left for me! When it's time for bed I have to get in really carefully. Even though it's my bed, I feel bad for disturbing them! Isn't that strange? But actually, I like feeling the weight of the kitties on me while I sleep. Even if I do have a stiff neck when I wake up!

Duga's mating season is coming up soon. I hear the neighborhood cats whenever they're in heat, too! My cats are all fixed, but it seems like whenever they hear the other cats they get all worked up. It seems that it's pretty rough for cats when they're in heat, too...but I wonder if Shizuku will be okay with Duga? Even if he doesn't break him, it seems like it'll be crazy!

I hope to write that story next, so keep an eye out for it!

Kyoko Wakatsuki